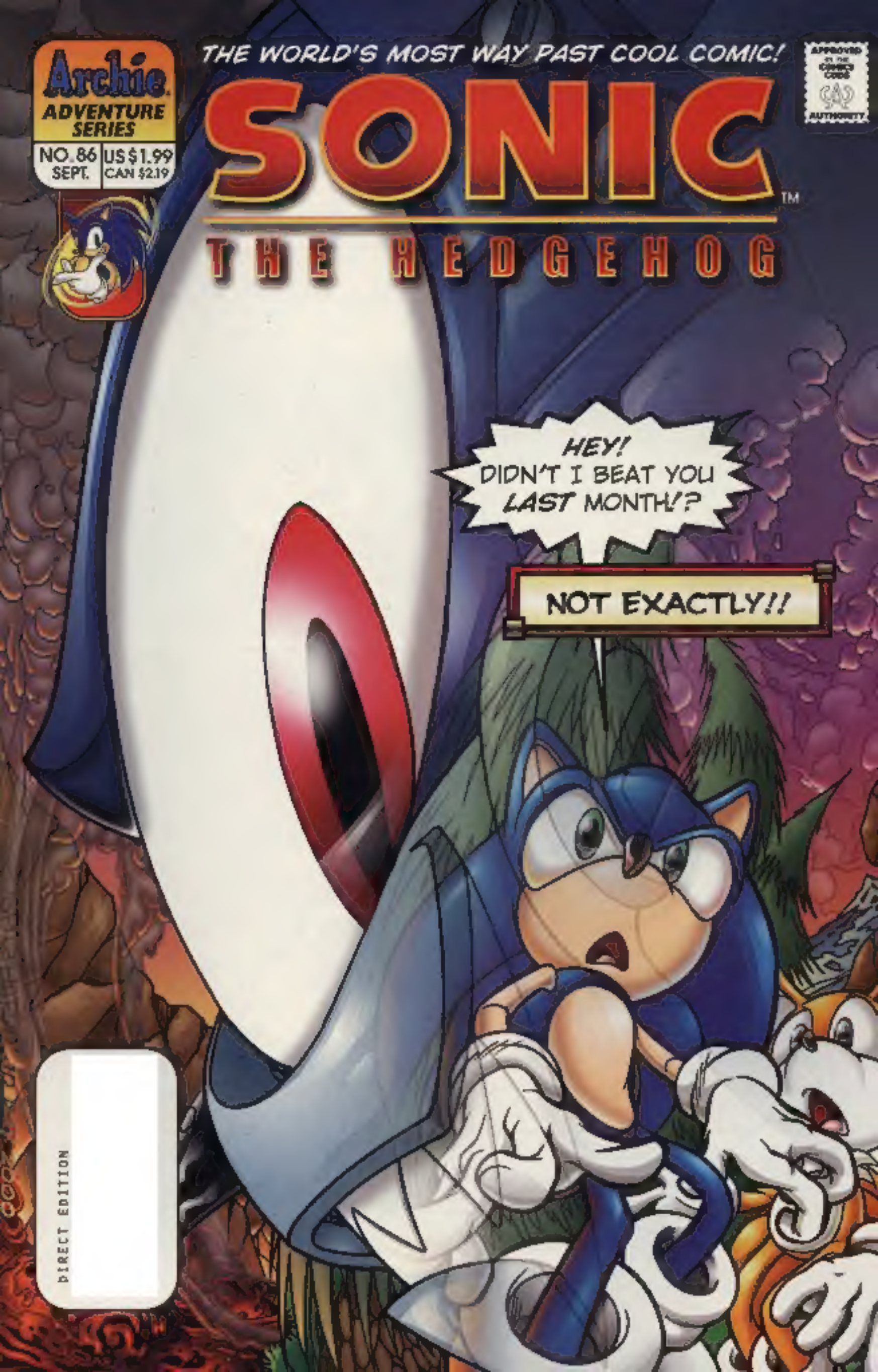
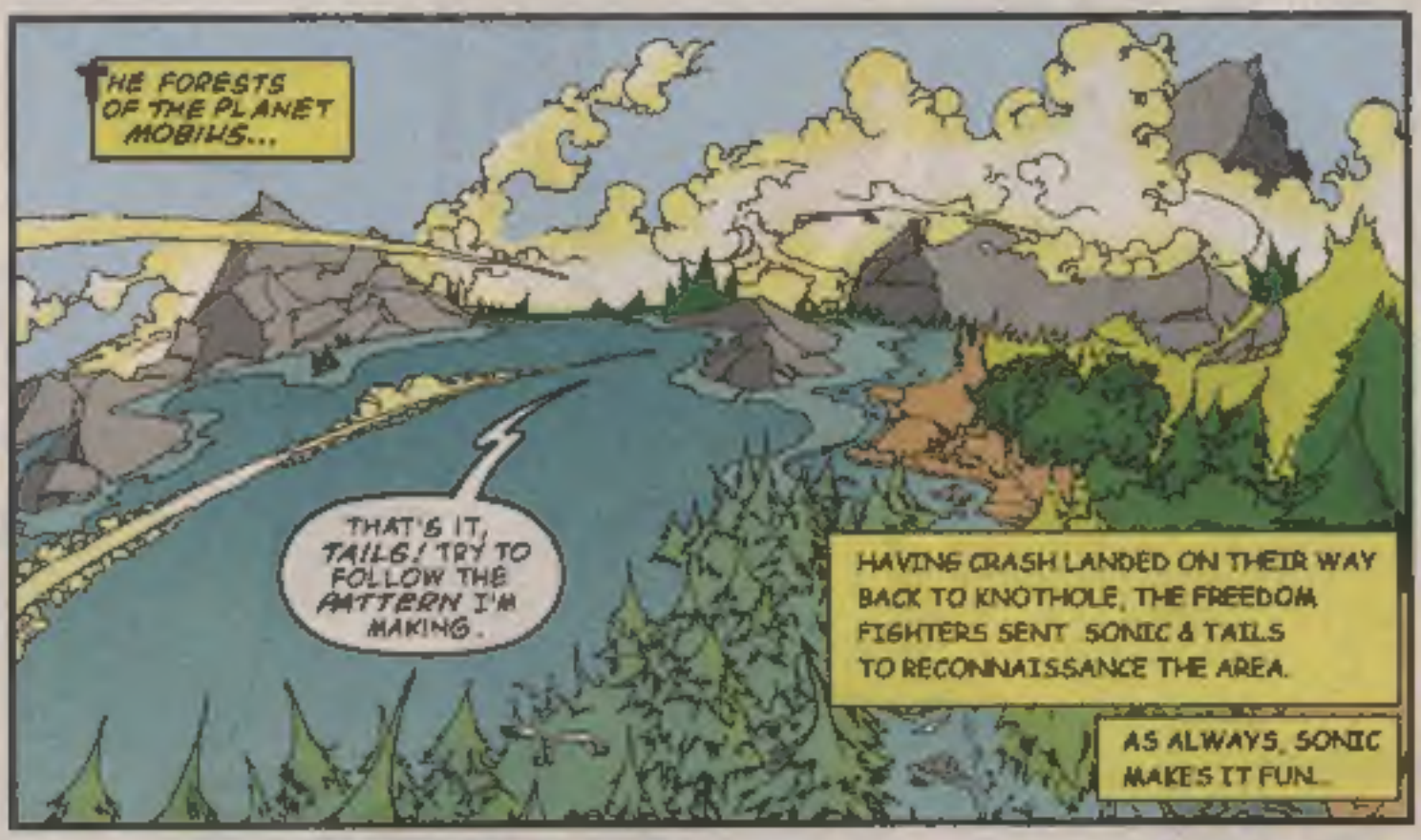
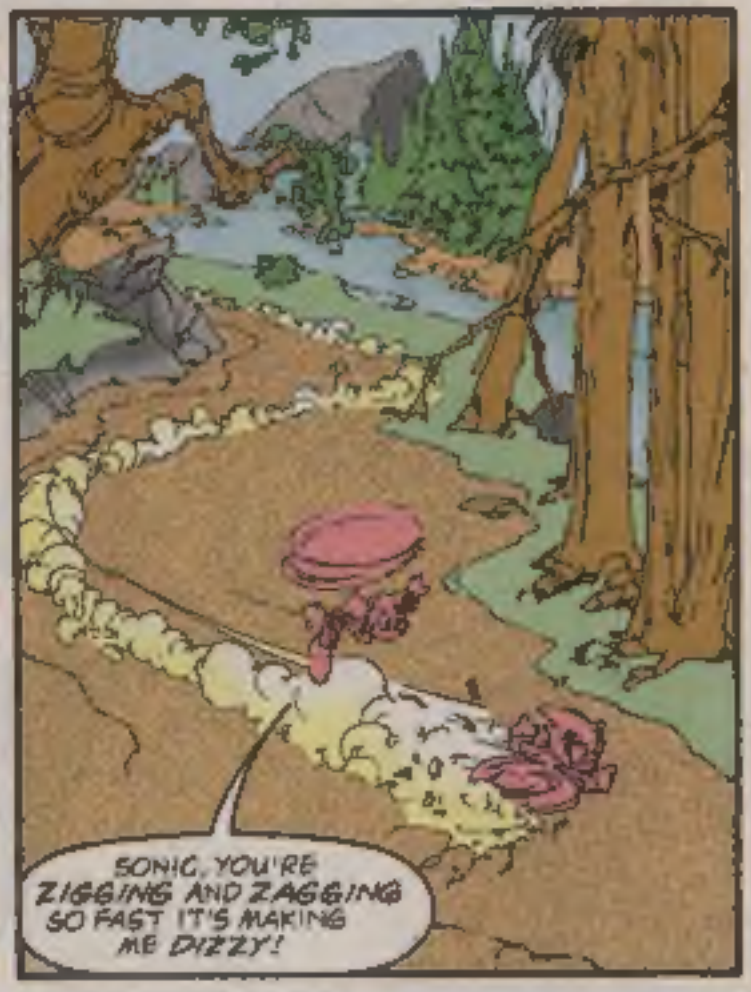

Archie
ADVENTURE SERIES
NO. 86 SEPT.
US $1.99 CAN $2.19
THE WORLD'S MOST WAY PAST COOL COMIC!
SONIC™
THE HEDGEHOG
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
HEY! DIDN'T I BEAT YOU LAST MONTH!?
NOT EXACTLY!!
DIRECT EDITION

After ten long years, the iron-fisted rule of DOCTOR ROBOTNIK over planet MOBIUS was believed to have finally ended! With the technological tyrant vanquished and his polluted factories shut down, order and beauty were restored to the city of MOBOTROPOLIS. Now the villain has returned to wreak havoc once more, but there are many who are willing to stand against him in the fight for freedom. The bravest among them is a brash, blue streak who just happens to be the fastest thing alive! ARCHIE COMICS AND SEGA PRESENT... SONIC THE HEDGEHOG!





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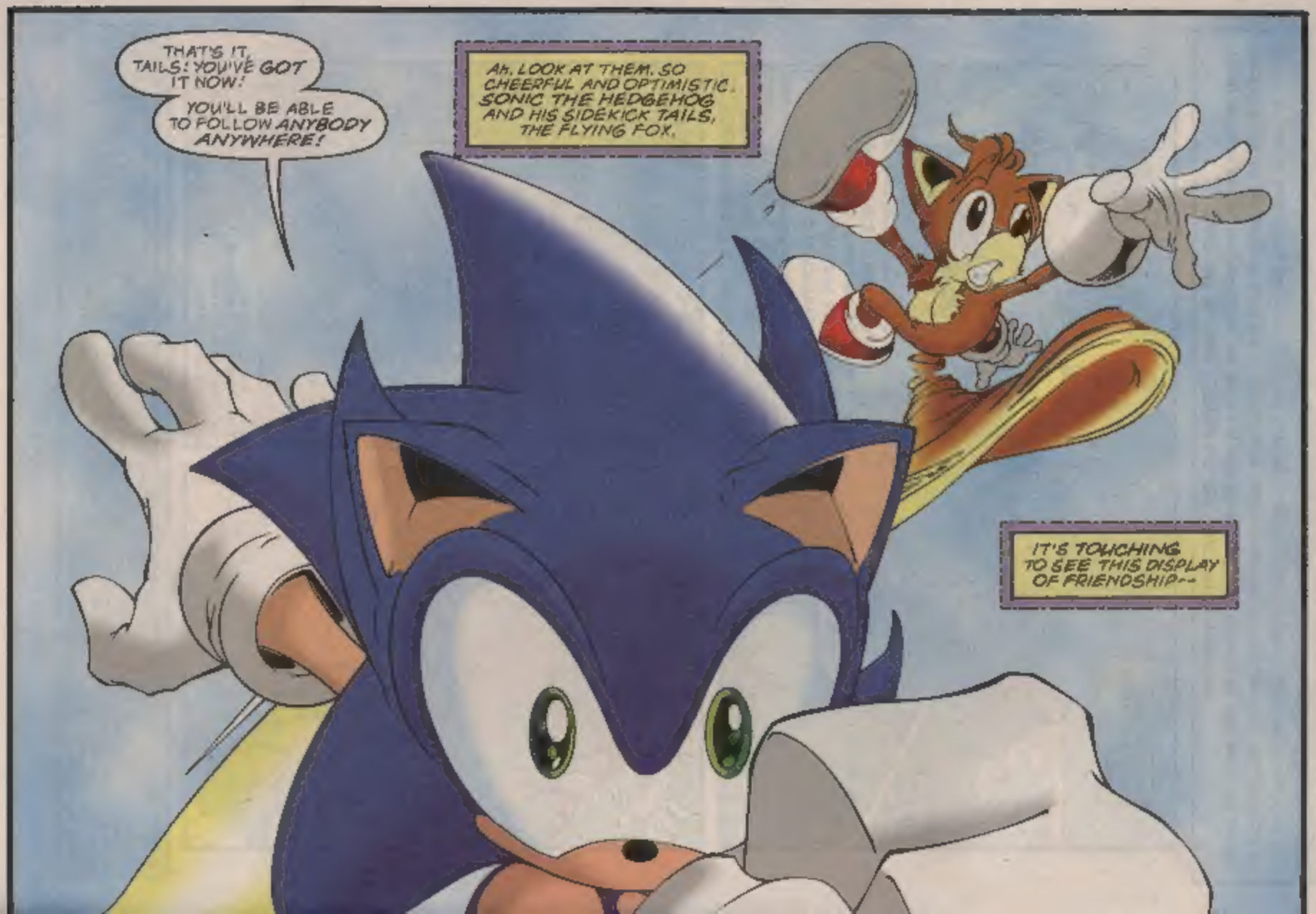
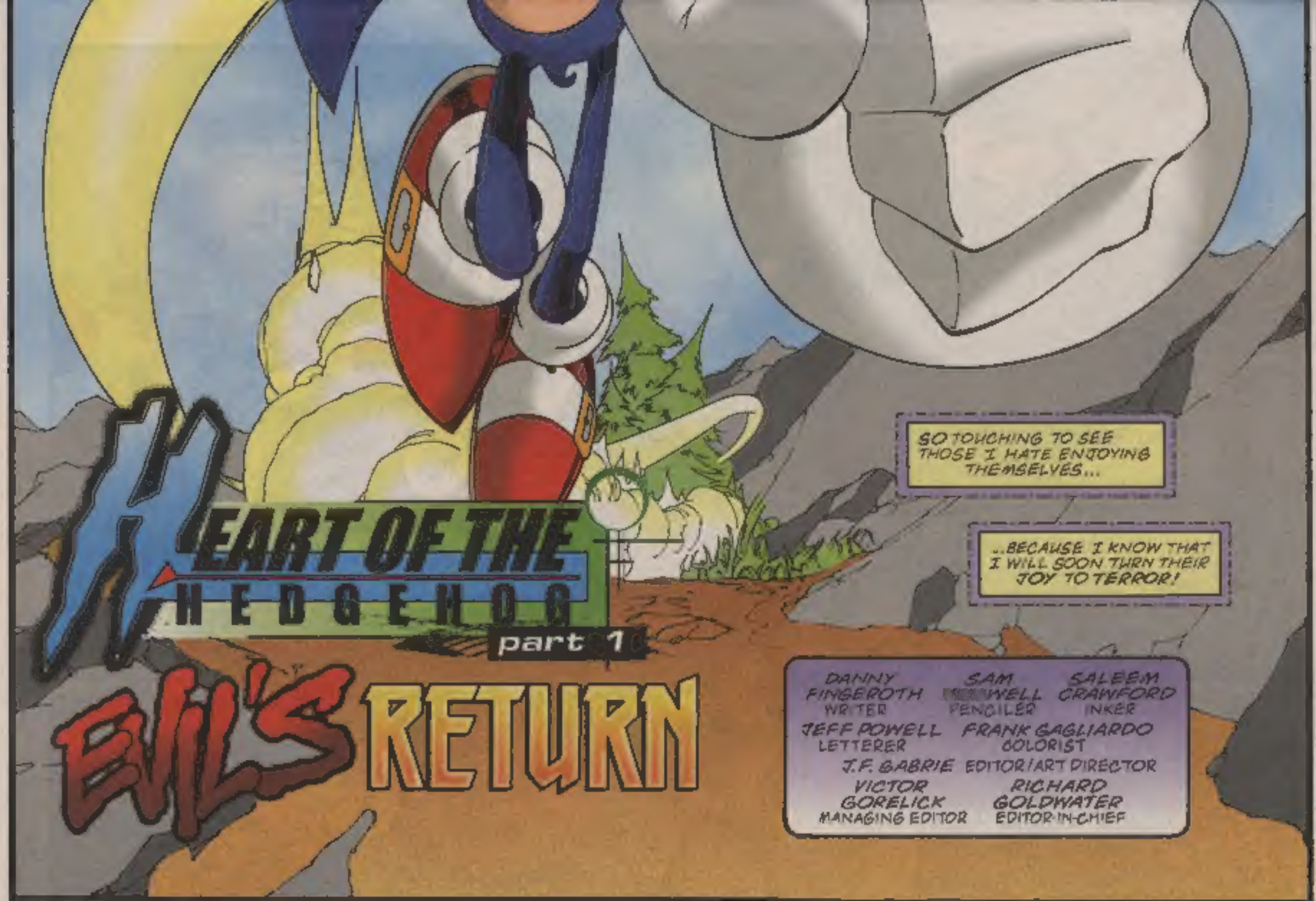

THAT'S IT, TAILS! YOU'VE GOT IT NOW!
YOU'LL BE ABLE TO FOLLOW ANYBODY ANYWHERE!
AH, LOOK AT THEM. SO CHEERFUL AND OPTIMISTIC. SONIC THE HEDGEHOG AND HIS SIDEKICK TAILS, THE FLYING FOX.
IT'S TOUCHING TO SEE THIS DISPLAY OF FRIENDSHIP--


SO TOUCHING TO SEE THOSE I HATE ENJOYING THEMSELVES...
..BECAUSE I KNOW THAT I WILL SOON TURN THEIR JOY TO TERROR!
HEART OF THE HEDGEHOG
part 1
EVIL'S RETURN
DANNY FINGEROTH WRITER
SAM [illegible]WELL PENCILER
SALEEM CRAWFORD INKER
JEFF POWELL LETTERER
FRANK GAGLIARDO COLORIST
J.F. GABRIE EDITOR/ART DIRECTOR
VICTOR GORELICK MANAGING EDITOR
RICHARD GOLDWATER EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

WHOA! THAT WIND KNOCKED ME OFF COURSE!
EASY, TAILS! GO WITH IT!
I CAN'T! IT'S TOO STRONG!
PULL UP! PULL UP!
I'M TRYIN'!
IT'S OKAY, LIL' BUDDY--
--I GOT YA!
FWUMP

COULD I BE MORE EMBARRASSED?!
HEY, THAT'S WHY WE HAVE TRAINING SESSIONS! LIKE THIS, SO WHEN A REAL CRISIS COMES ALONG YOU'LL BE READY.
THERE BETTER NOT BE ONE SOON.
HEY--WE'VE BEEN THROUGH SOME TOUGH TIMES TOGETHER, TAILS, AND YOU'VE NEVER LET ME DOWN YET.
IN FACT, YOU HANDLED YOURSELF LIKE A PRO AT THE HIDDEN CITY OF THE ANCIENTS!
BUT THESE NEW MANEUVERS-- I'LL NEVER LEARN THEM.
NEVER IS A LONG TIME, TAILS, WHEN I WAS TURNED INTO A ROBOT WAY BACK WHEN, I THOUGHT I'D NEVER BECOME A NORMAL HEDGEHOG AGAIN.
BUT I DID, AND IF I CAN "GET BETTER" FROM SOMETHING LIKE THAT...
...THEN YOU CAN LEARN TO DO A FEW NEW MANEUVERS.
SEEMS SO PETTY NEXT TO PROBLEMS LIKE YOU HAD, SONIC.
I WASN'T SAYIN' IT TO MAKE YOU FEEL BAD, BUD BUT ENOUGH YAKKIN'
--LET'S GET YOU BACK INTO THE GAME AGAIN! WE NEED TO GET LUNCH STARTED. YOU GATHER SOME FIREWOOD--
--WHILE I GET THE KINDLING GOING.

SOUNDS LIKE A PLAN.
SEE YA IN A FEW.

SONIC'S SO COOL. A FEW WORDS FROM HIM AND EVERYTHING SEEMS OKAY.

OKAY, A LITTLE FIRE AND SOON I'LL BE COOKING CHILI DOGS A LA SONIC!

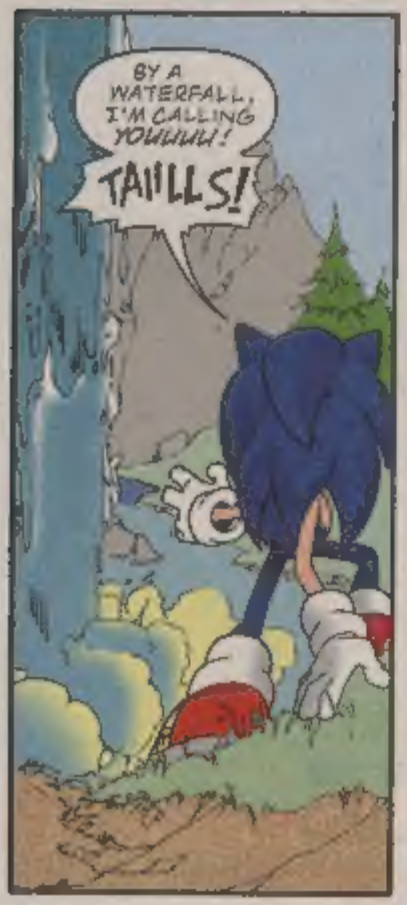
I'LL ADD SOME MORE KINDLING, SO WHEN TAILS GETS BACK I CAN THROW THE BIG PIECES RIGHT ON TOP.
HOPE THE KID DOESN'T GET LOST...

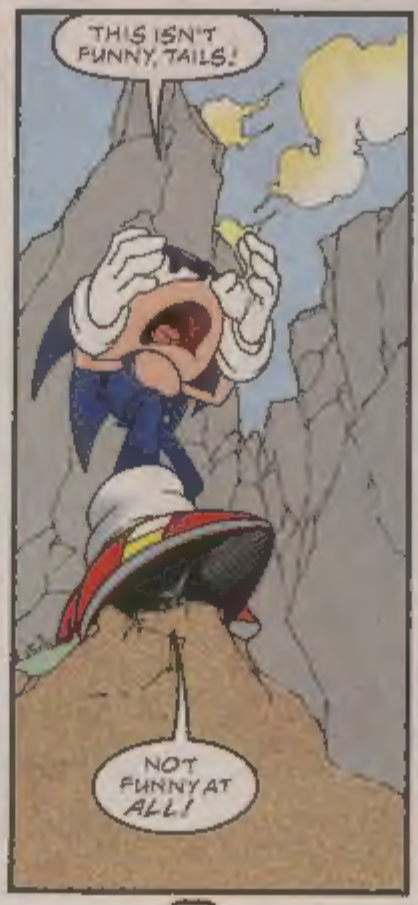
BUT...
IT'S BEEN HALF AN HOUR...

AND...
AN HOUR. SOMETHING'S WRONG.
TAAIILSS!

TAILS! TAILS!

TAIILLLS!
COME OUT, COME OUT-- WHERE EVER YOU ARE!


BY A WATERFALL, I'M CALLING YOUUUU!
TAIILLS!


THIS ISN'T FUNNY, TAILS!
NOT FUNNY AT ALL!

NOT GOOD. COULD I HAVE UPSET THE LITTLE GUY WITH MY RAZZIN' HIM OVER HIS--
LOOKING FOR SOMETHING, SONIC?

A PLASMA BLAST PERHAPS?

SHWAZPAK

WHUU

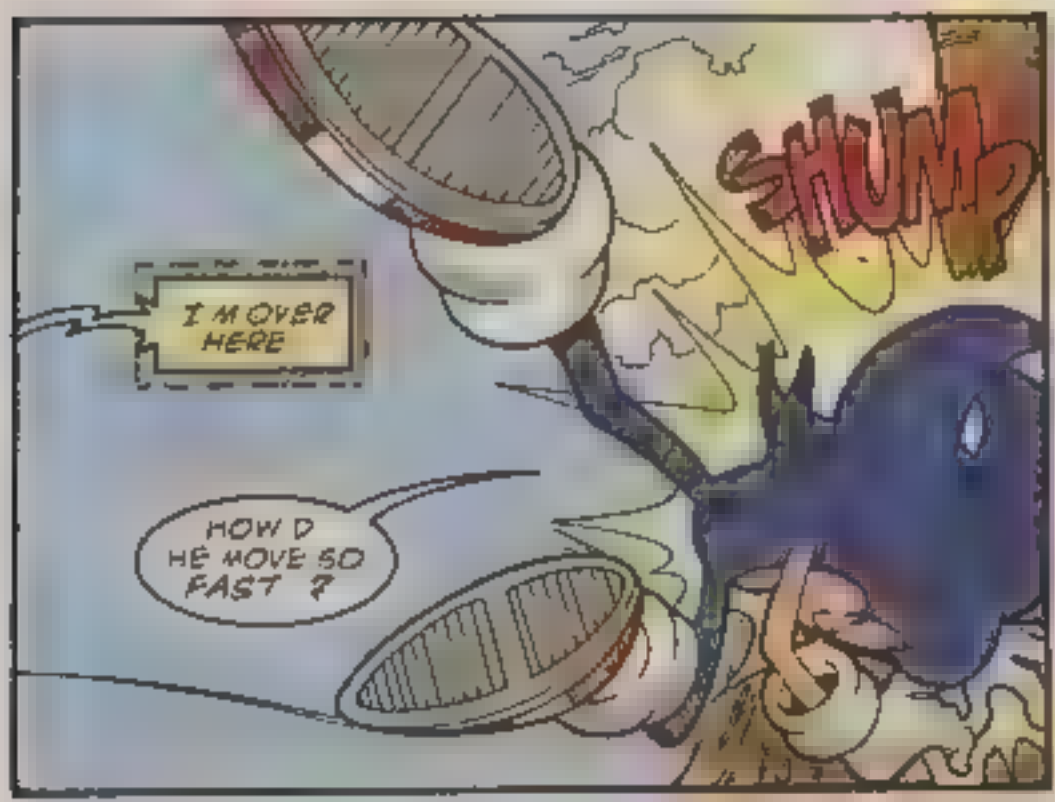
-UMNFF-

HOLY FRIJOLES! NOT YOU! NOT--

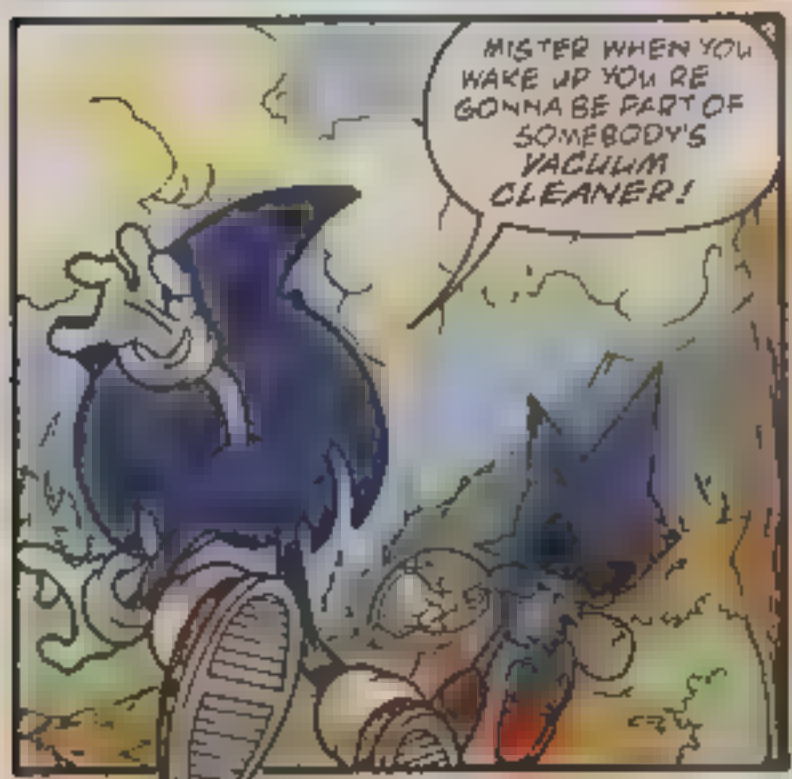
METAL SONIC!

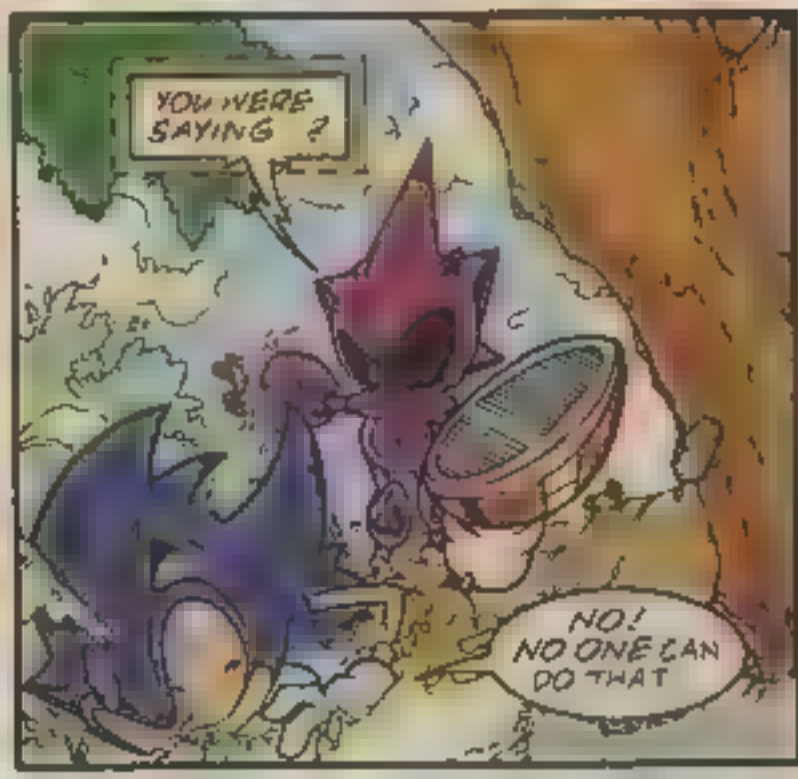
OH, BUT IT IS ME, MY ORGANIC TEMPLATE.

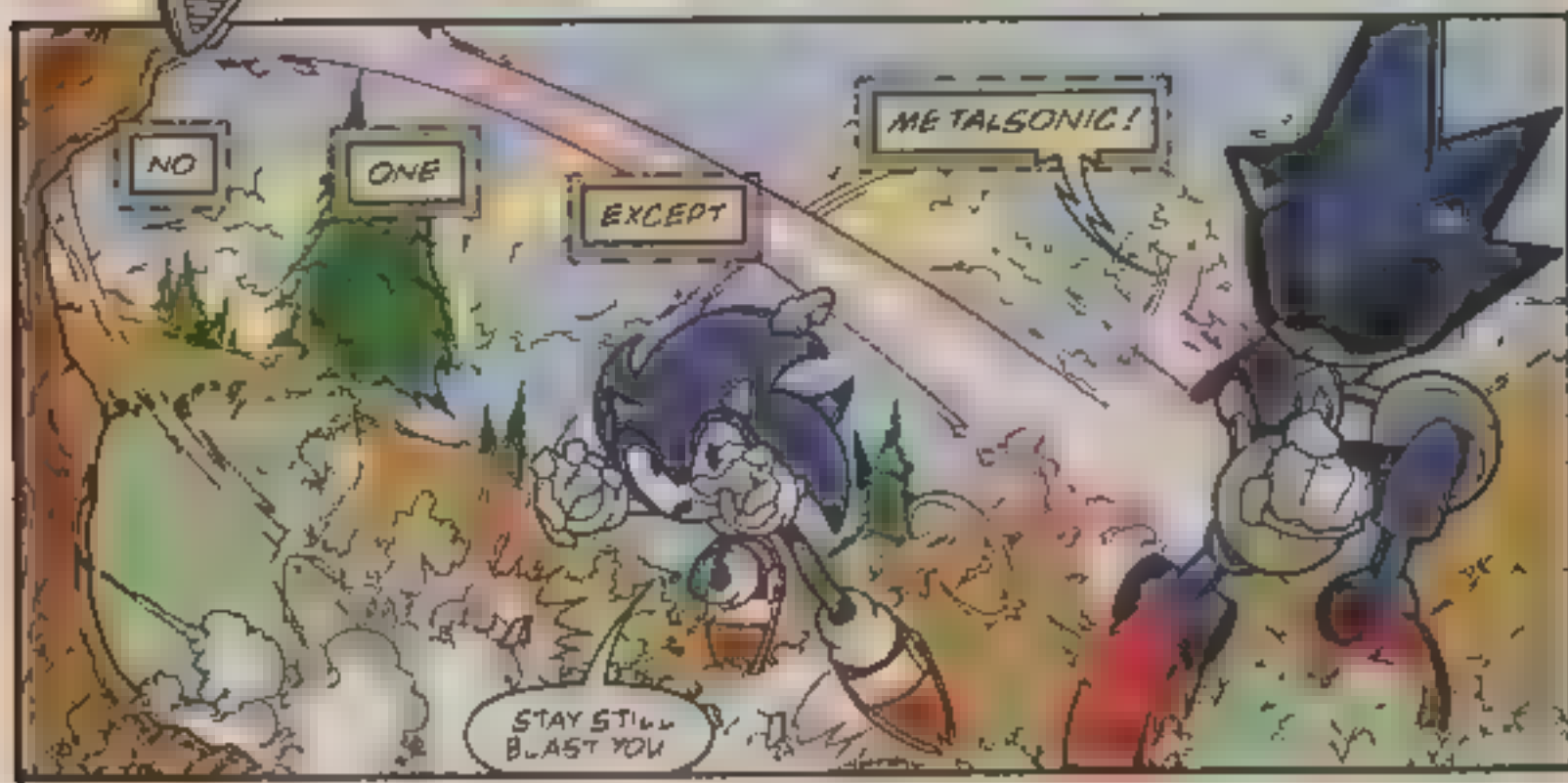
BUT I THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD-- OR WHATEVER HAPPENS TO ROBOTS.
I WAS... DEACTIVATED ...AND SMASHED TO BITS...
BUT NOT BEING FLESH-AND-BLOOD LIKE YOURSELF...
...I WAS ABLE TO RECONSTRUCT MYSELF.
NOW CORRECT ME IF I'M WRONG, BOLTHEAD--
"--BUT WHILE I DID TRASH YOU GOOD AND SOLID LAST TIME WE MET...!
"...WASN'T IT MY FRIEND KNUCKLES WHO MADE A JUNK HEAP OUT OF YOU LAST TIME YOU WERE OUT AND ABOUT?"
WOOM!
"YOU AFTER HIM, TOO?"
HE'LL GET HIS SOON. MY PROGRAMMING DICTATES I DESTROY YOU FIRST.
I BEGAN EARLIER... WITH THE CAPTURE OF YOUR YOUNG FRIEND!
TELL ME WHERE TAILS IS!
TELL ME!

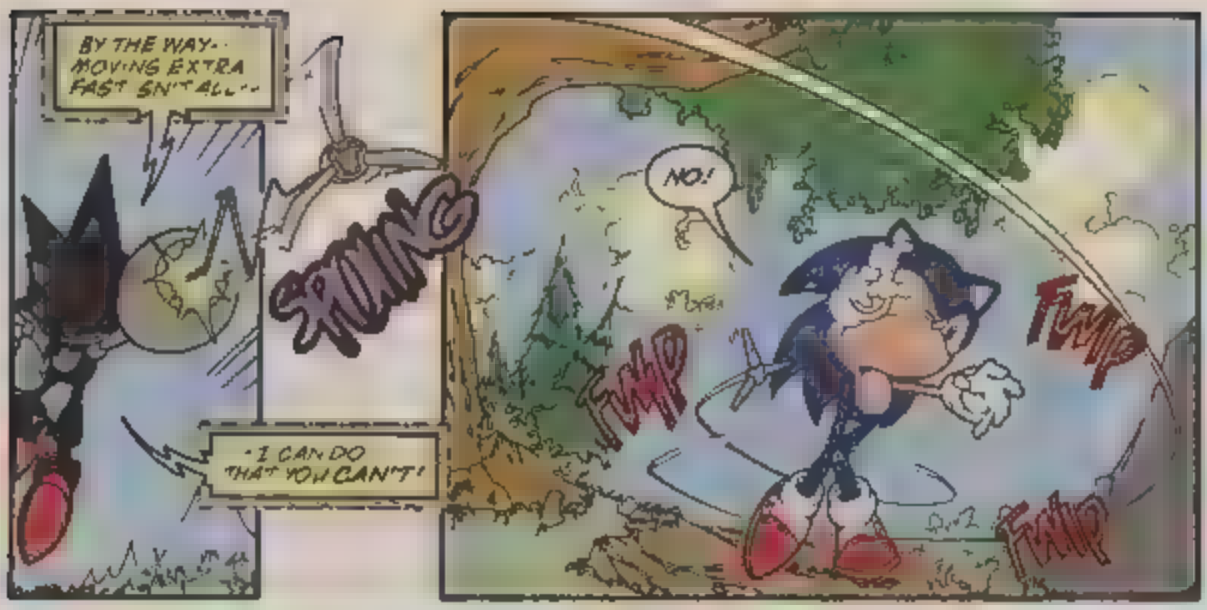

SHUMP
I M OVER HERE
HOW D HE MOVE SO FAST ?

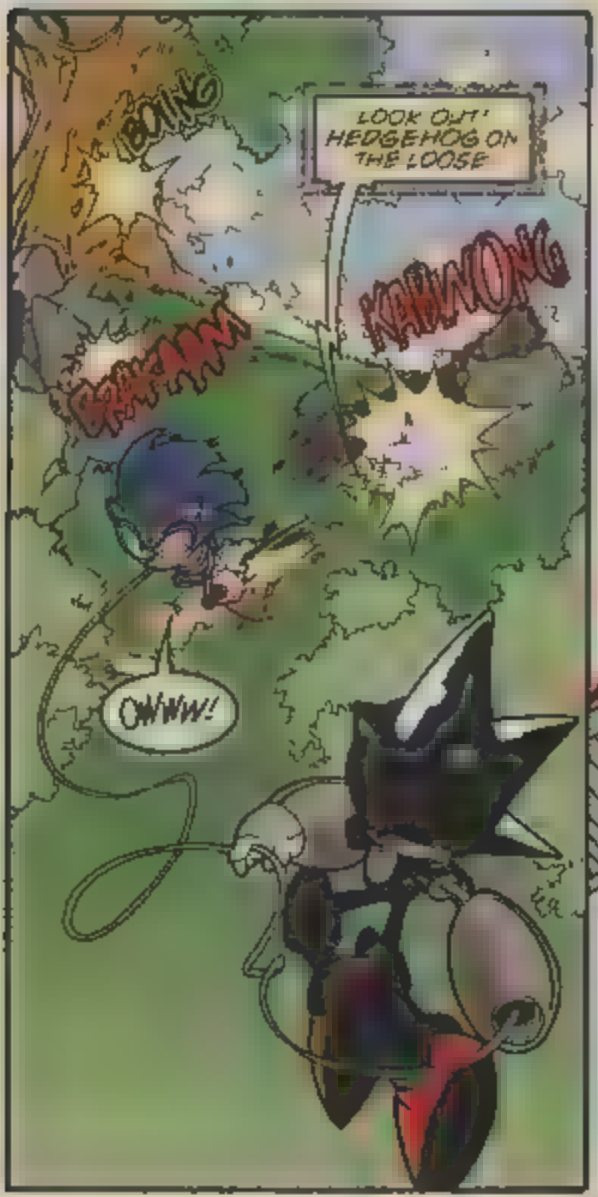
HERE I AM TAKE ANOTHER SHOT

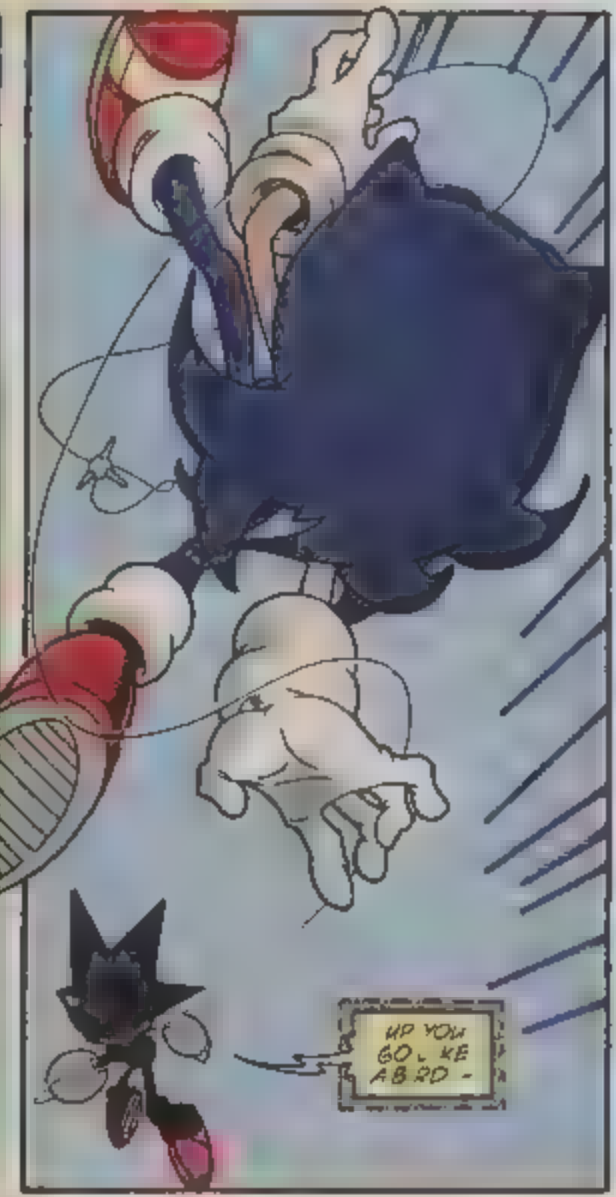

MISTER WHEN YOU WAKE UP YOU RE GONNA BE PART OF SOMEBODY'S VACUUM CLEANER!

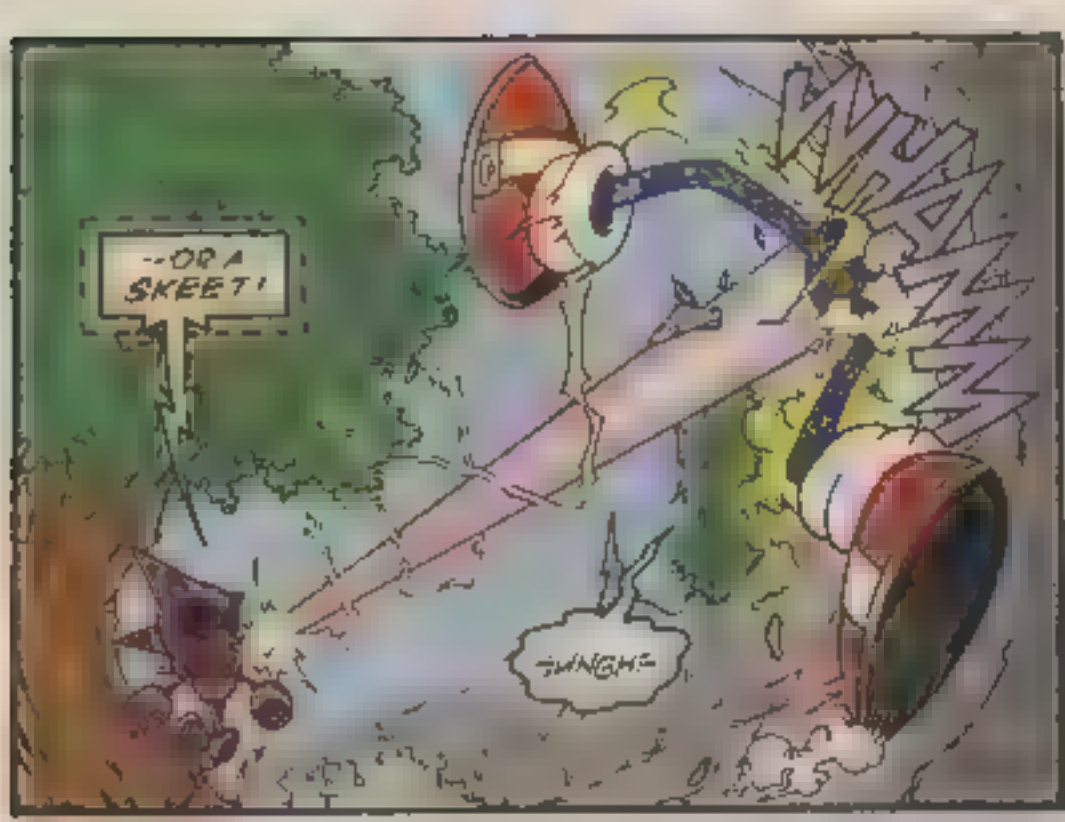

YOU WERE SAYING ?
NO! NO ONE CAN DO THAT


NO
ONE
EXCEPT
METALSONIC!
STAY STILL BLAST YOU


BY THE WAY... MOVING EXTRA FAST ISN'T ALL...
SPRING
...I CAN DO THAT YOU CAN'T!
NO!
FWIP
FWIP
FWIP


BOING
LOOK OUT! HEDGEHOG ON THE LOOSE
KRAKAAM
KRAWONG
OWWW!

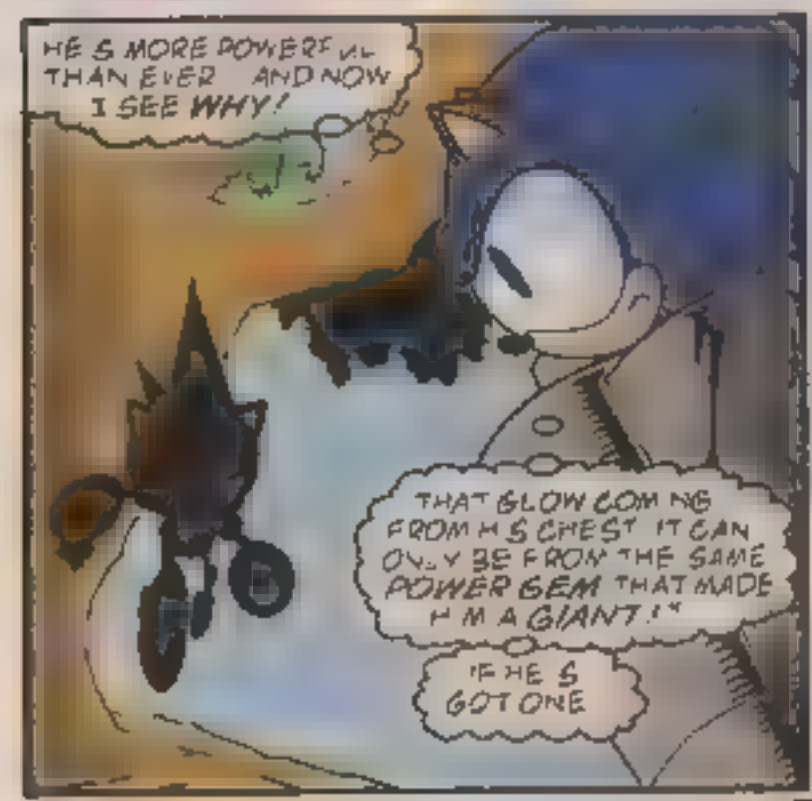

UP YOU GO, KE ABRO...

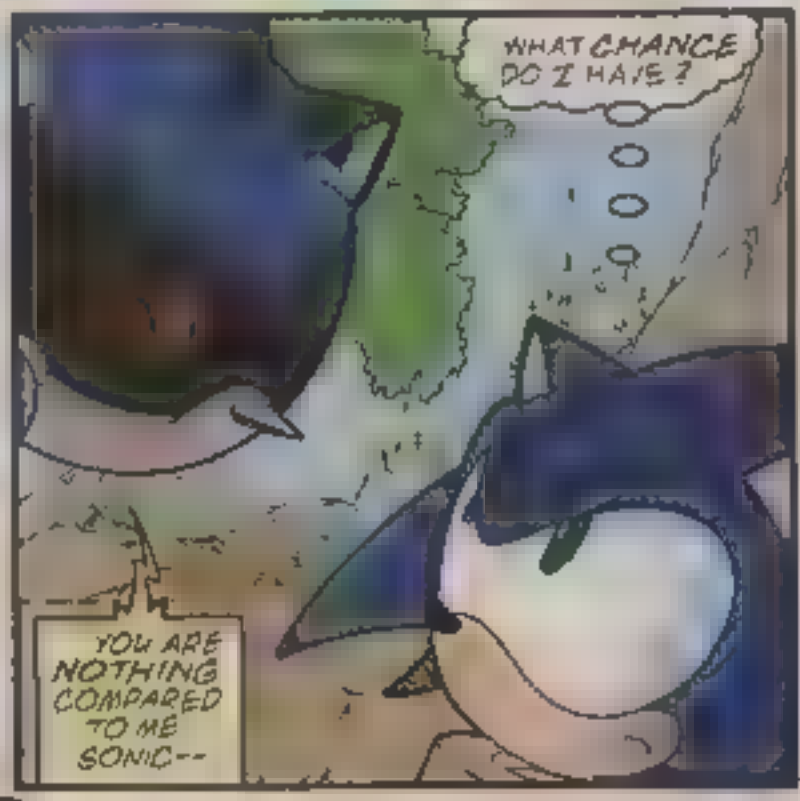

--OR A SKEET!
-WNGH-

FWIPX!
BWOMP

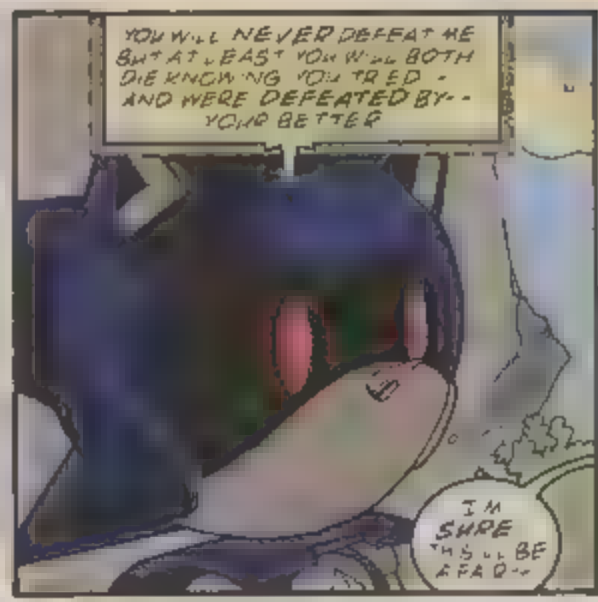
NOW I KNOW HOW YOU FIDGET--
SPONK

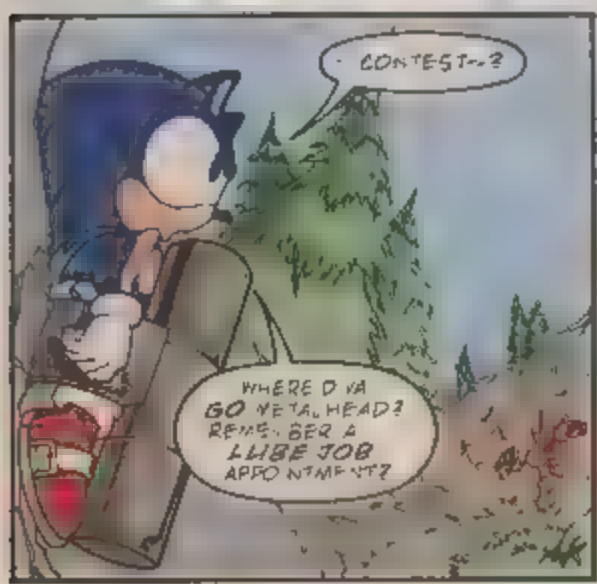
BWAMP
BWAMP
SO I'LL MAKE SURE YOU STAY STILL FOR THE REST OF OUR LITTLE CHAT

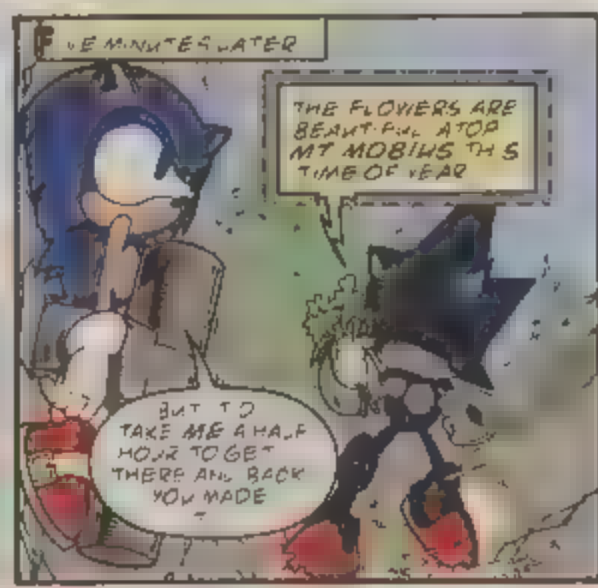

HE'S MORE POWERFUL THAN EVER AND NOW I SEE WHY!
THAT GLOW COMING FROM HIS CHEST IT CAN ONLY BE FROM THE SAME POWER GEM THAT MADE HIM A GIANT!
IF HE'S GOT ONE

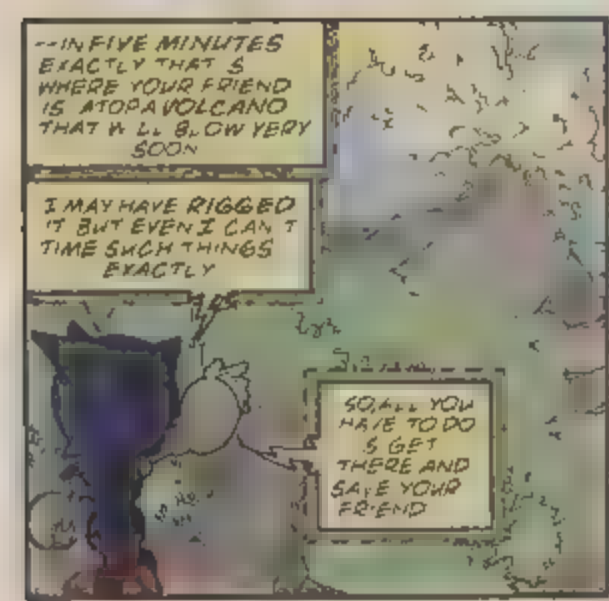

WHAT CHANCE DO I HAVE?
YOU ARE NOTHING COMPARED TO ME SONIC--

NOTHING!
BUT I AM A FAIR ROBOT I WILL GIVE YOU A CHANCE TO SAVE YOUR FRIEND

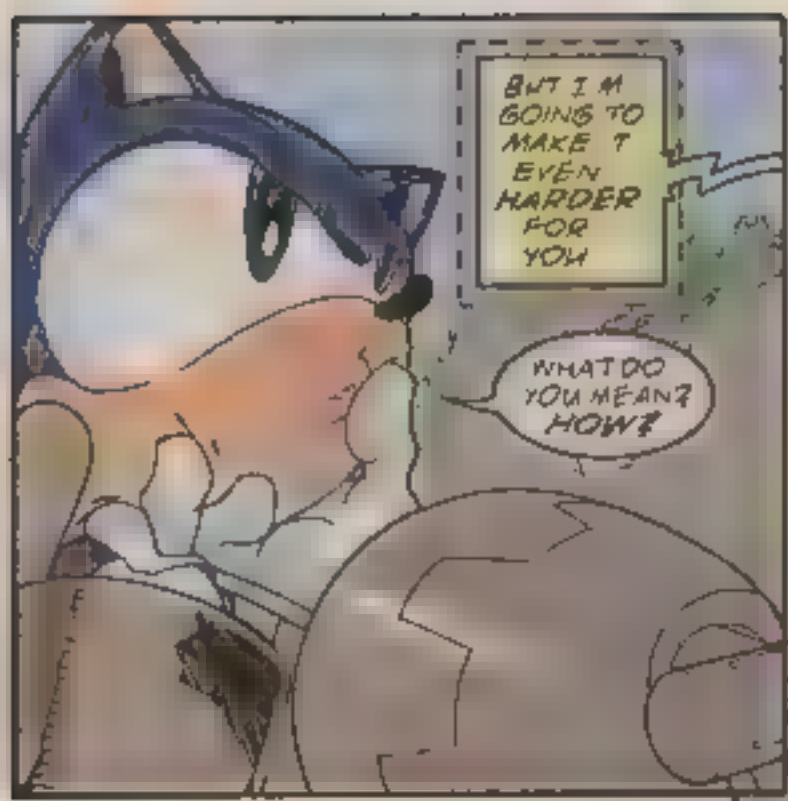

YOU WILL NEVER DEFEAT ME BUT AT LEAST YOU WILL BOTH DIE KNOWING YOU TRIED - AND WERE DEFEATED BY-- YOUR BETTER
I'M SURE THIS WILL BE FRIED--

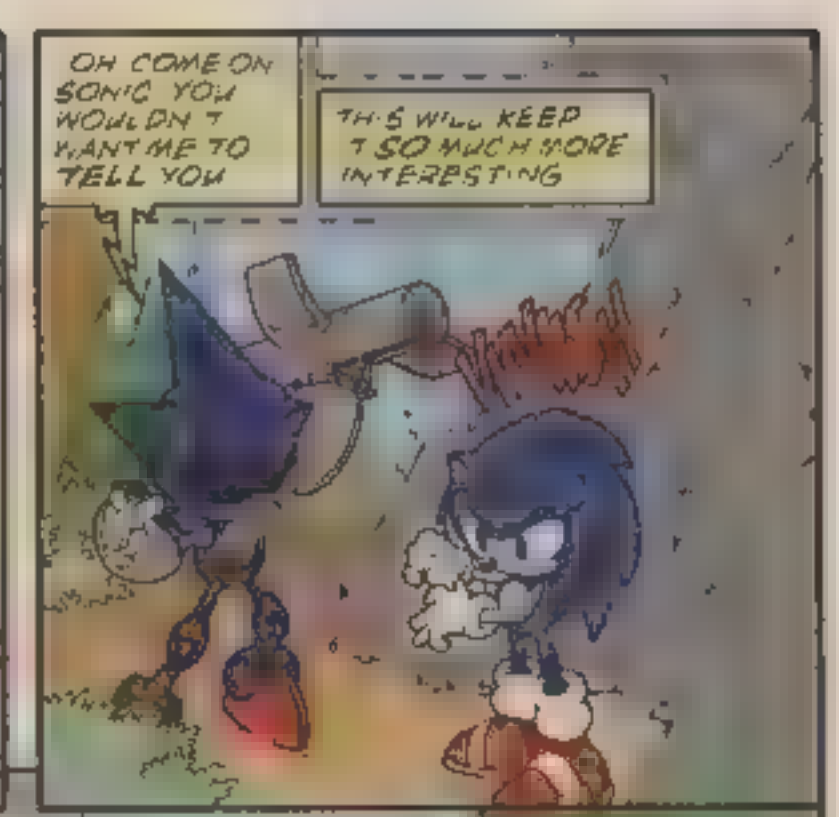

CONTEST--?
WHERE D'YA GO YETAL HEAD? REMEMBER A LUBE JOB APPOINTMENT?

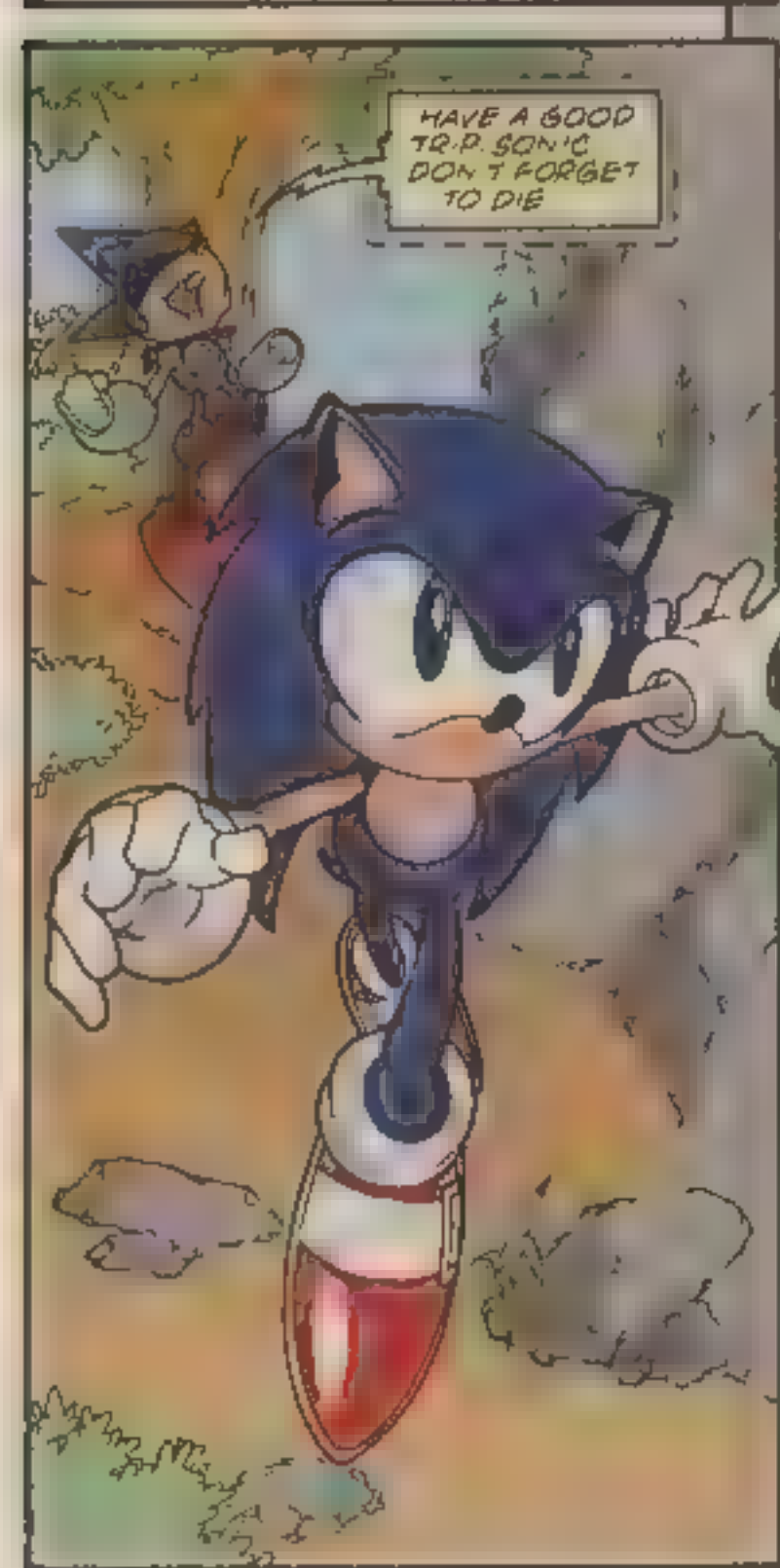

FIVE MINUTES LATER
THE FLOWERS ARE BEAUTIFUL ATOP MT MOBIUS THIS TIME OF YEAR
BUT IT TOOK ME A HALF HOUR TO GET THERE AND BACK YOU MADE IT

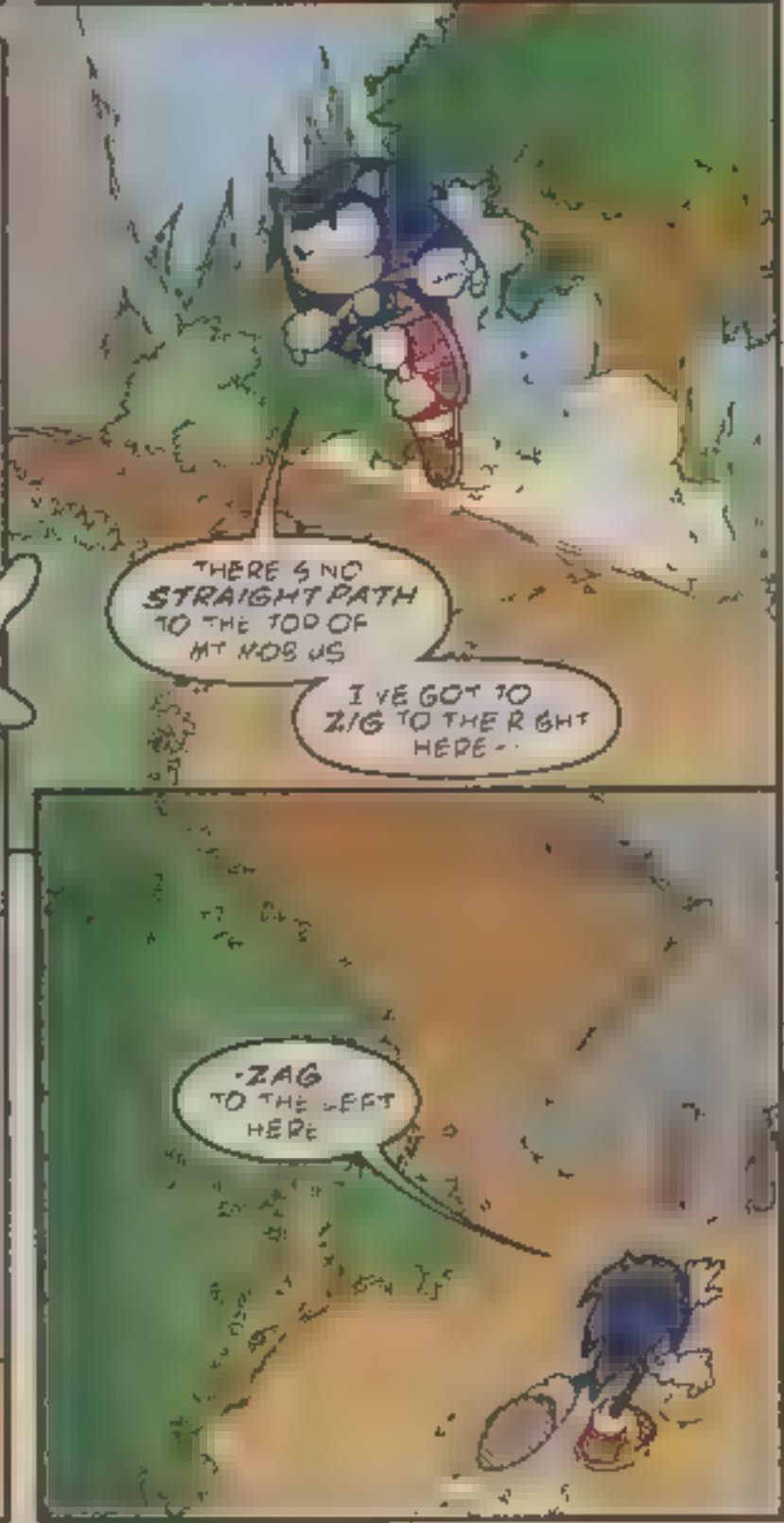

--IN FIVE MINUTES EXACTLY THAT IS WHERE YOUR FRIEND IS ATOP A VOLCANO THAT WILL BLOW VERY SOON
I MAY HAVE RIGGED IT BUT EVEN I CAN'T TIME SUCH THINGS EXACTLY
SO, ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS GET THERE AND SAVE YOUR FRIEND

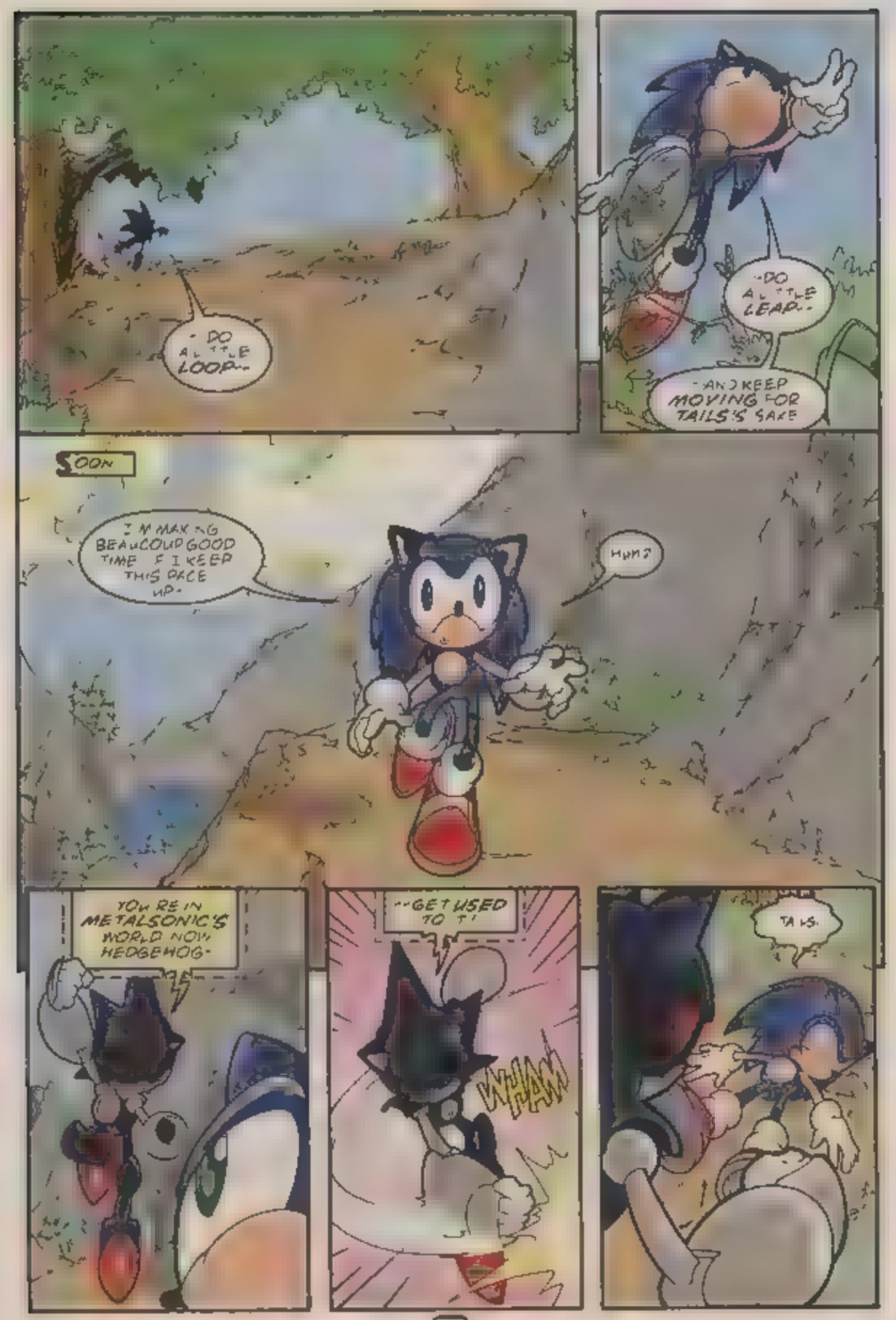
FOR TAILS, I'LL BREAK THE LAND SPEED RECORD!
ADMIRABLE SENTIMENTS.

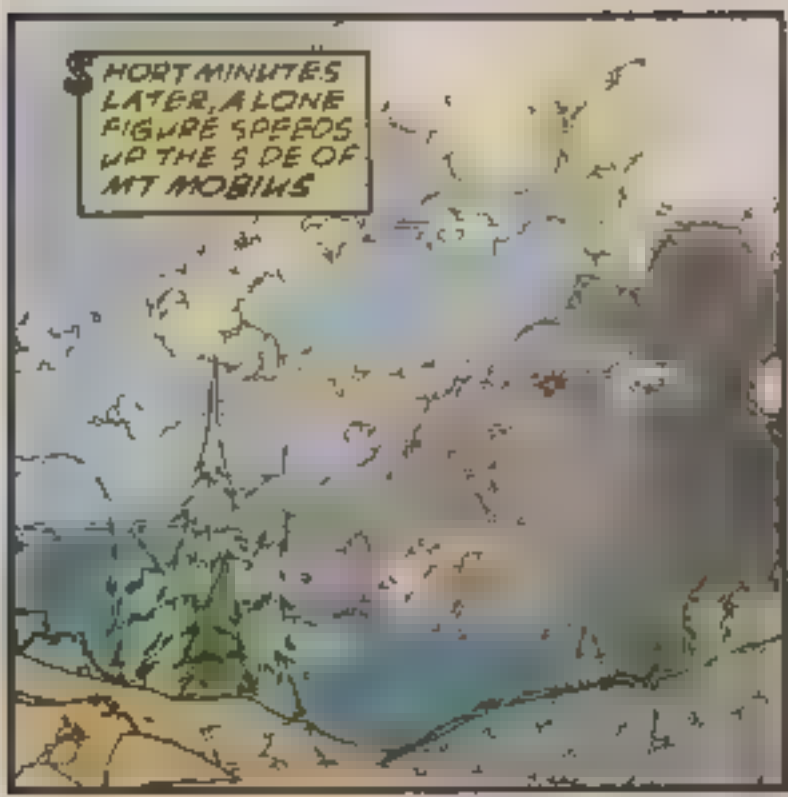

BUT I M GOING TO MAKE T EVEN HARDER FOR YOU
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? HOW?

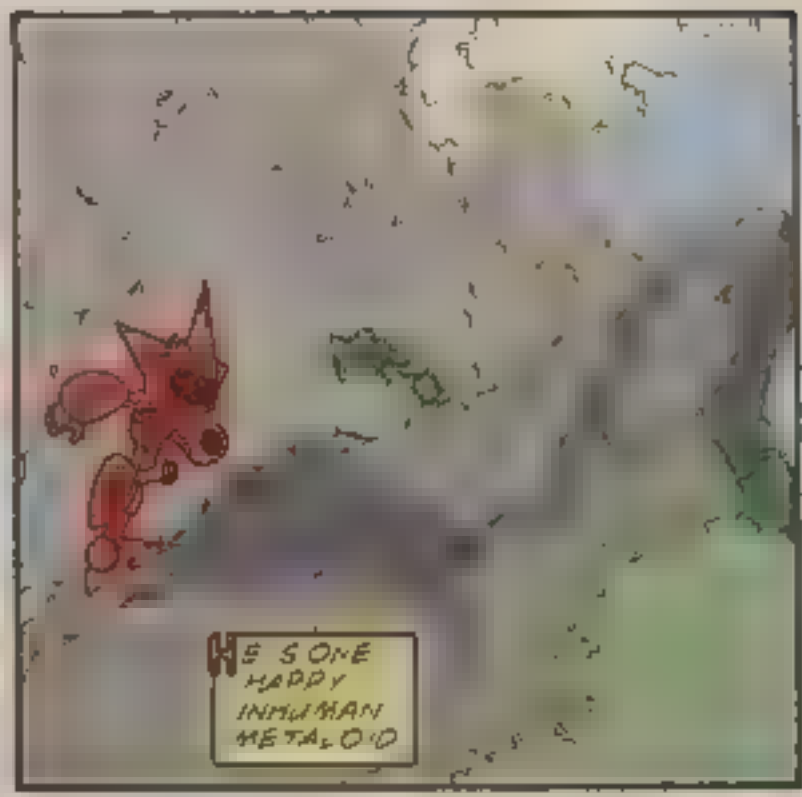

OH COME ON SONIC YOU WOULDN T WANT ME TO TELL YOU
TH S WILL KEEP T SO MUCH MORE INTERESTING


HAVE A GOOD TR P SONIC DON T FORGET TO DIE


THERE S NO STRAIGHT PATH TO THE TOP OF MT NOB US
I VE GOT TO ZIG TO THE R GHT HERE..
-ZAG TO THE LEFT HERE


DO A LITTLE LOOP...
DO A LITTLE LEAP...
AND KEEP MOVING FOR TAILS'S SAKE
SOON
I'M MAKING BEAUCOUP GOOD TIME IF I KEEP THIS PACE UP.
HUH?
YOU'RE IN METALSONIC'S WORLD NOW, HEDGEHOG.
...GET USED TO IT!
WHAM
TAILS.





START SAYING YOUR GOODBYES, TALIS YOUR FRIEND LET YOU DOWN.

NO I CAN'T - I'LL NEVER... BELIEVE THAT

SONIC'S GONNA GET HERE HE'S GONNA SAVE ME

AND THEN THE TWO OF US ARE GONNA KICK YOUR CHROME BUTT FROM HERE TO THE SOUTHERN TUNDRA!

I LOVE A FLESHLING WITH A SENSE OF HUMOR

CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE IN LAVA STORY

TEN YEARS AGO...

IN DAYS LONG PAST, MEGABOTROPOLIS FACED CONFLICT FROM OUTSIDE ADVERSARIES, AND UNBEKNOWNST TO KING MAX, ONE FROM WITHIN AS WELL...

THIS RELENTLESS SCHEDULE YOU'VE SET FOR YOURSELF MUST BE BACKBREAKING, JULIAN! WHY NOT CUT BACK A LITTLE?

WITH THE *WAR* RAGING ON, THERE'S NO TIME TO SLACK OFF, YOUR HIGHNESS!

THE ADVANCES I'M MAKING WITH TECHNOLOGY WILL GREATLY AID YOUR PEOPLE.

WITH MEDICINAL APPLICATIONS ON THE BATTLEFIELD, WOUNDS AND [illegible] AVERTED--COUNTLESS LIVES WILL BE SAVED!

SIGH! VERY WELL--THERE'S NO DISPUTING *THAT* POINT. YOU'RE DOING GREAT WORK, AND WE'LL OWE YOU A DEBT OF THANKS!

NONSENSE! I AM BUT A HUMBLE *TOOL*--IT IS YOUR *HUMANE VISION* THAT WE SHOULD ALL BE THANKFUL FOR!

FEH! THAT WAS *DISGUSTING*! HOW COULD YOU *SUCK UP* LIKE THAT? I'M *EMBARRASSED* TO CALL YOU MY *UNCLE*!

SNIVELY, YOU *IDIOT*! WOULD YOU RATHER THAT LITTLE RODENT KNOW WHAT I'M *REALLY* UP TO?

ONCE I'VE PERFECTED THE ART OF [illegible] MEGABOTROPOLIS WILL FALL UNDER THE HEELS OF MY *CYBORG ARMY*!

AH! NOW *THAT'S* MORE LIKE IT!

THIS WOULD GO A LOT *FASTER* IF I COULD FIND SUITABLE *GUINEA PIGS* TO EXPERIMENT ON

USING THE LOCALS WOULD GIVE AWAY MY PLAN--IF ONLY THERE WERE HABITANTS IN THE *OUTER REACHES* OF THE KINGDOM...

THE OUTER REACHES OF THE KINGDOM--

--NAMELY A SMALL IMMIGRANT SETTLEMENT NAMED LELING WEST, WHERE THE NEW NATIVES ARE RESTLESS...

MONKEY KHAN IN AGAINST THE HAUNTED PAST

HEY! NO FAIR, KEN--TACKLING IS AGAINST THE RULES!!

SEZ WHO? I MADE THE RULES UP, SO I CAN BREAK 'EM IF I WANT! YOU'RE LUCKY THAT'S THE ONLY THING I'M BREAKING!

FRANK ETHAM
WRITER/PENCILER
HARVO
INKER
VICKE WILLIAMS
LETTERER
FRANK GALLARDO
COLORIST
J.F. GARAIS
WAI HERO

LOOK OUT! KEN'S GONE PSYCHO AGAIN!!

KEN KHAN! HAVEN'T I SCOLDED YOU BEFORE FOR SUCH ROUGHHOUSING?

BUT, FATHER— WE WERE ONLY PLAYING...!

HE NEARLY BROKE MY BACK, LORD LAU.

PLAYING WITH KEN IS HAZARDOUS TO YOUR HEALTH!

AIIYAH! I AM LAU KHAN, RESPECTED COMMUNITY LEADER– HOW DOES IT SERVE THE PEOPLE THAT MY OWN SON IS SO AGGRESSIVE... SO VIOLENT?
BUT, FATHER, I LIKE TO FIGHT... AND I'M GOOD AT IT!
LELING WEST IS A COMMUNITY OF PACIFISTS, ARTISANS, AND INTELLECTUALS-- FIGHTING IS NOT ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR!
AND IF WE ARE EVER FACED WITH THE EVENT OF WAR, WHAT THEN? HOW WILL WE DEFEND OURSELVES WITHOUT FIGHTING?
KEN, THERE IS NO CONFLICT THAT CANNOT BE RESOLVED THROUGH COMMUNICATION AND REASON!
THAT IS WHY WE ANNOUNCED OUR NEUTRALITY TO THE WAR BETWEEN THE OVERLANDERS AND THE KINGDOM OF ACORN!
I DO HATE TO CONTRADICT YOUR BELIEFS, LAU KHAN, BUT IF YOU HONESTLY BUY THAT, YOU'RE LIVING IN A FOOL'S PARADISE!
NOW LET'S ALL BE GOOD GUINEA PIGS AND FORM AN ORDERLY LINE--!
FATHER...?!?

EVENTUALLY...

I DON'T UNDERSTAND-- MY THEORIES OF CYBERNETICS WERE SOUND ENOUGH...

...AND YET THESE MONKEY-BOYS BODIES KEEP REJECTING MY CYBORG-IMPLANTS!

NONE OF THEM WAS STRONG ENOUGH TO ADAPT...

...NONE BUT YOU, THAT IS, YOUNG KEN KHAN-- MOBIUS'S FIRST CYBORG!

HERE I WANTED AN ARMY OF CYBER-SOLDIERS, AND INSTEAD I GET ONE CHIMP WITH A BIG STICK. I'LL BE THE LAUGHING STOCK OF MOBOTROPOLIS IF THIS EVER LEAKED OUT!

STILL, IT'S PROBABLY BEST TO GIVE YOU A ROAD TEST BEFORE I GIVE UP ON THIS IDEA.

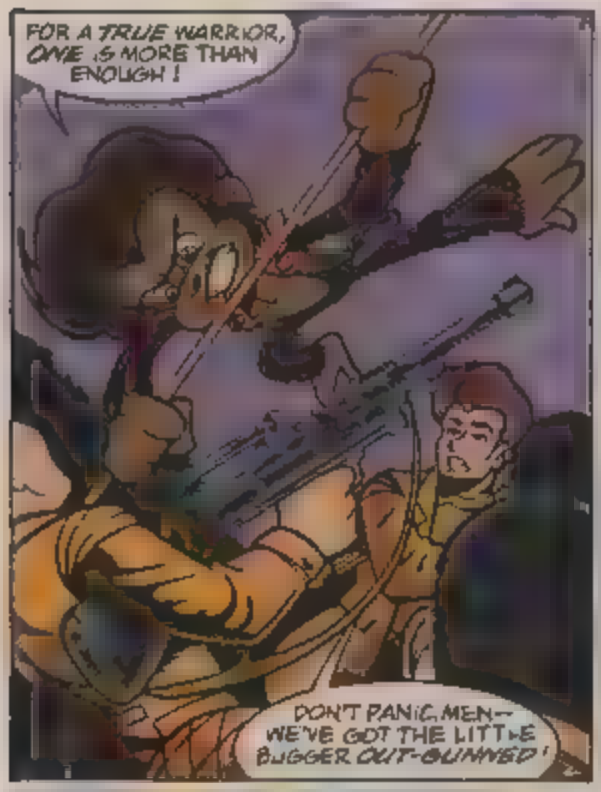
I WONDER WHAT SORT OF MILEAGE YOU GET...?

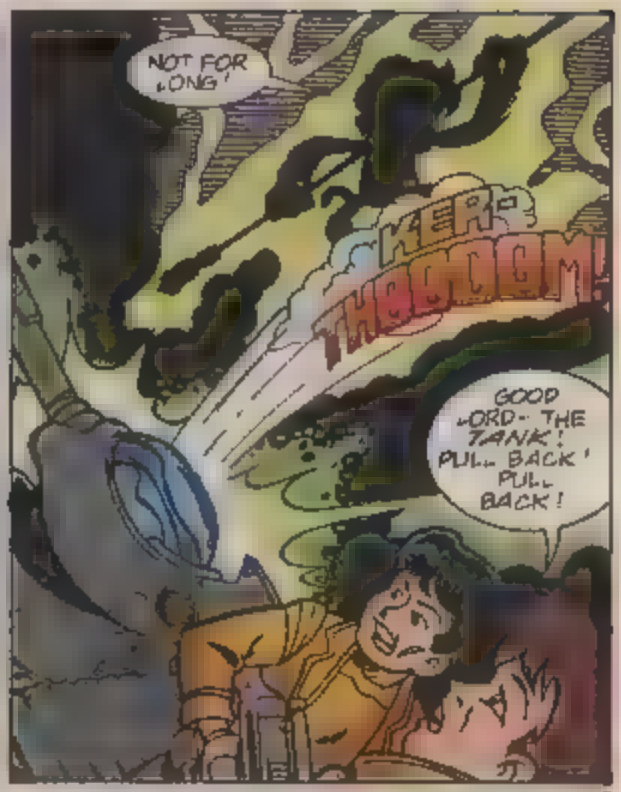
PERIMETER SECURITY CHECKS OUT, SARGE-- NOTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY.

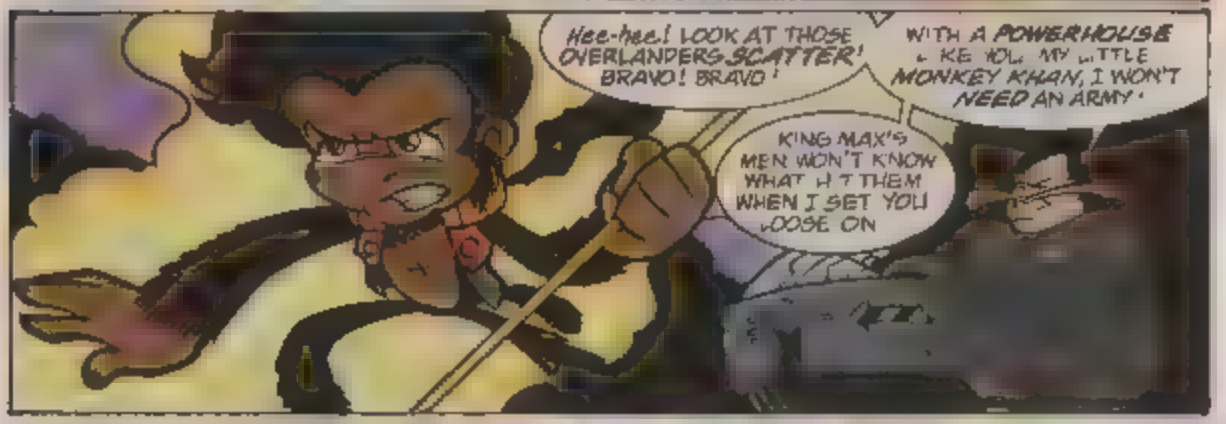
NO SURPRISE THERE, BRIGGS. THOSE MANGY ANIMALS AREN'T STUPID ENOUGH TO...

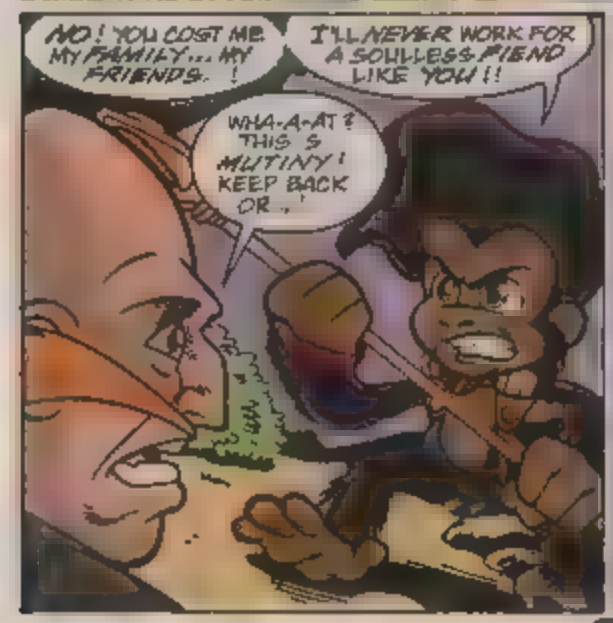
HEADS UP, TROOPS! WE'VE GOT A BOGEY COMIN' IN FAST!

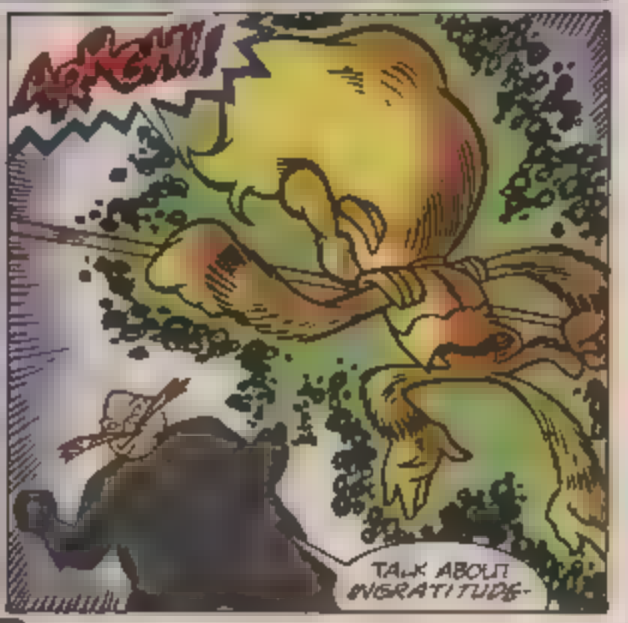
WHAT - ONLY ONE? THAT'S NUTS!

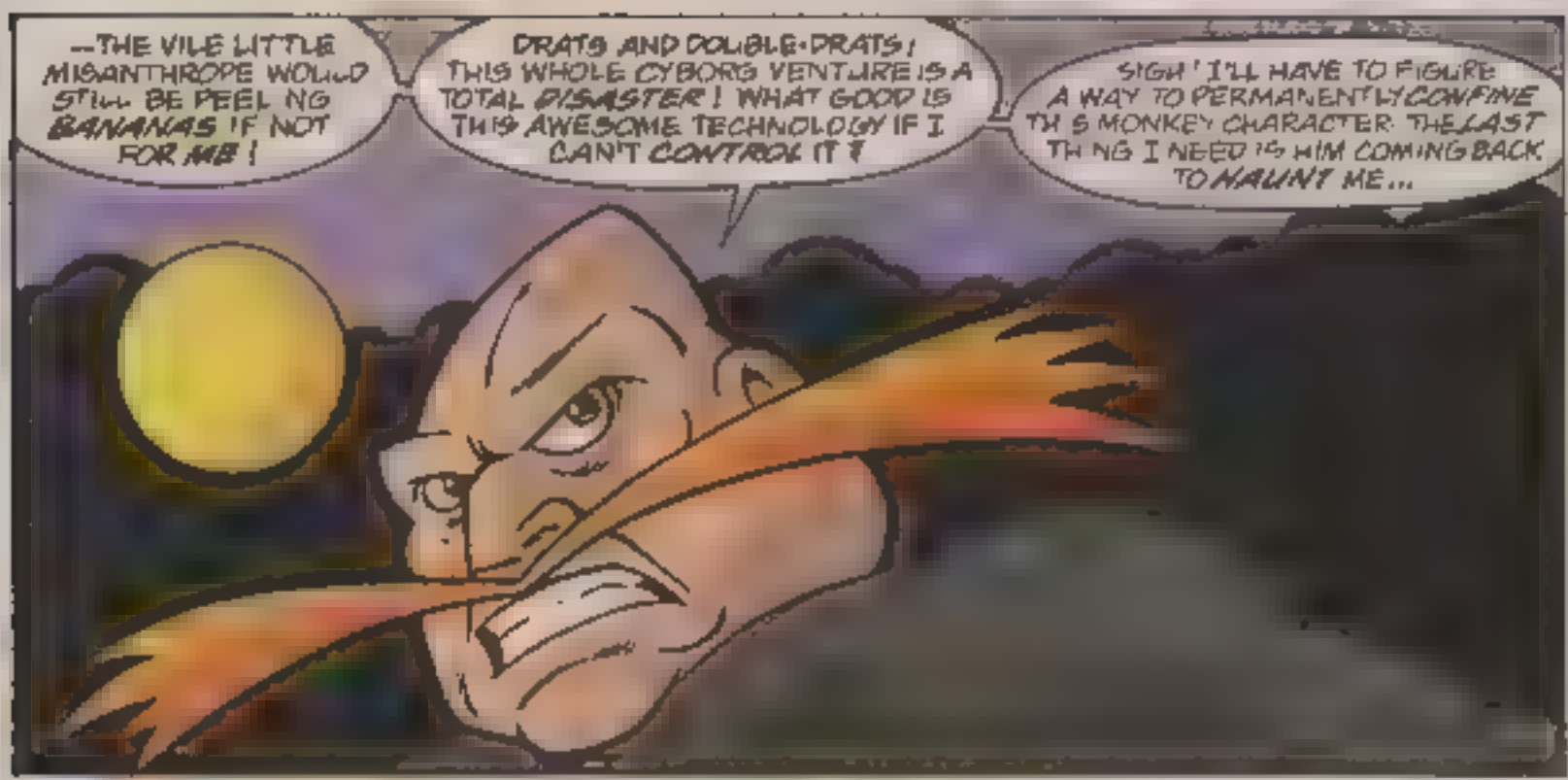

FOR A TRUE WARRIOR, ONE IS MORE THAN ENOUGH!
DON'T PANIC, MEN— WE'VE GOT THE LITTLE BUGGER OUT-GUNNED!

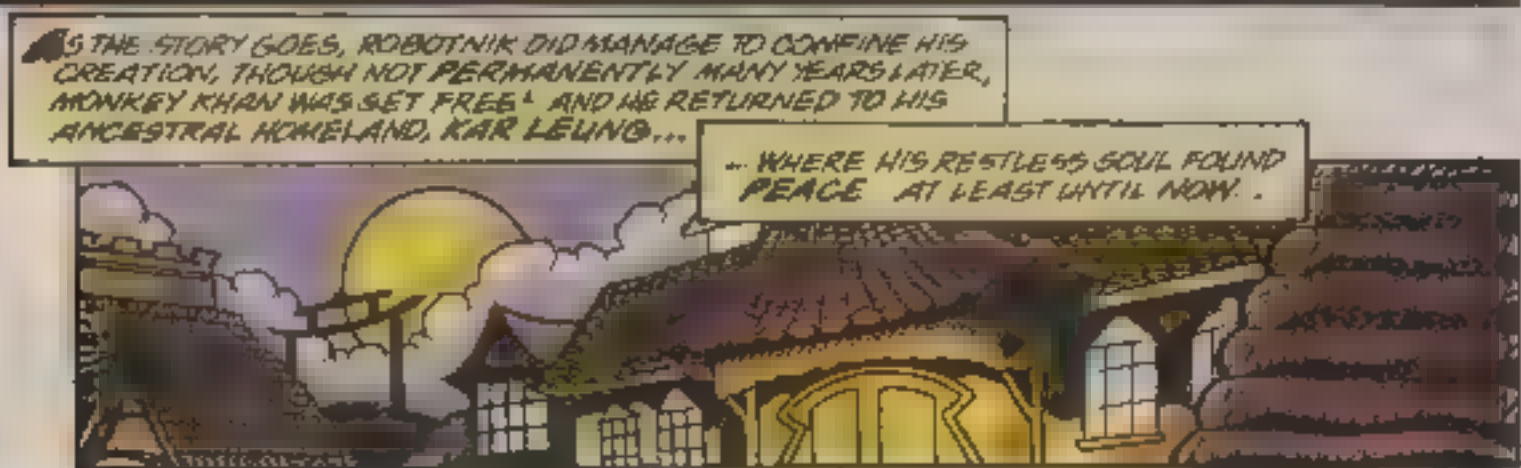

NOT FOR LONG!
KERR-THOOOOM!
GOOD LORD— THE TANK! PULL BACK! PULL BACK!

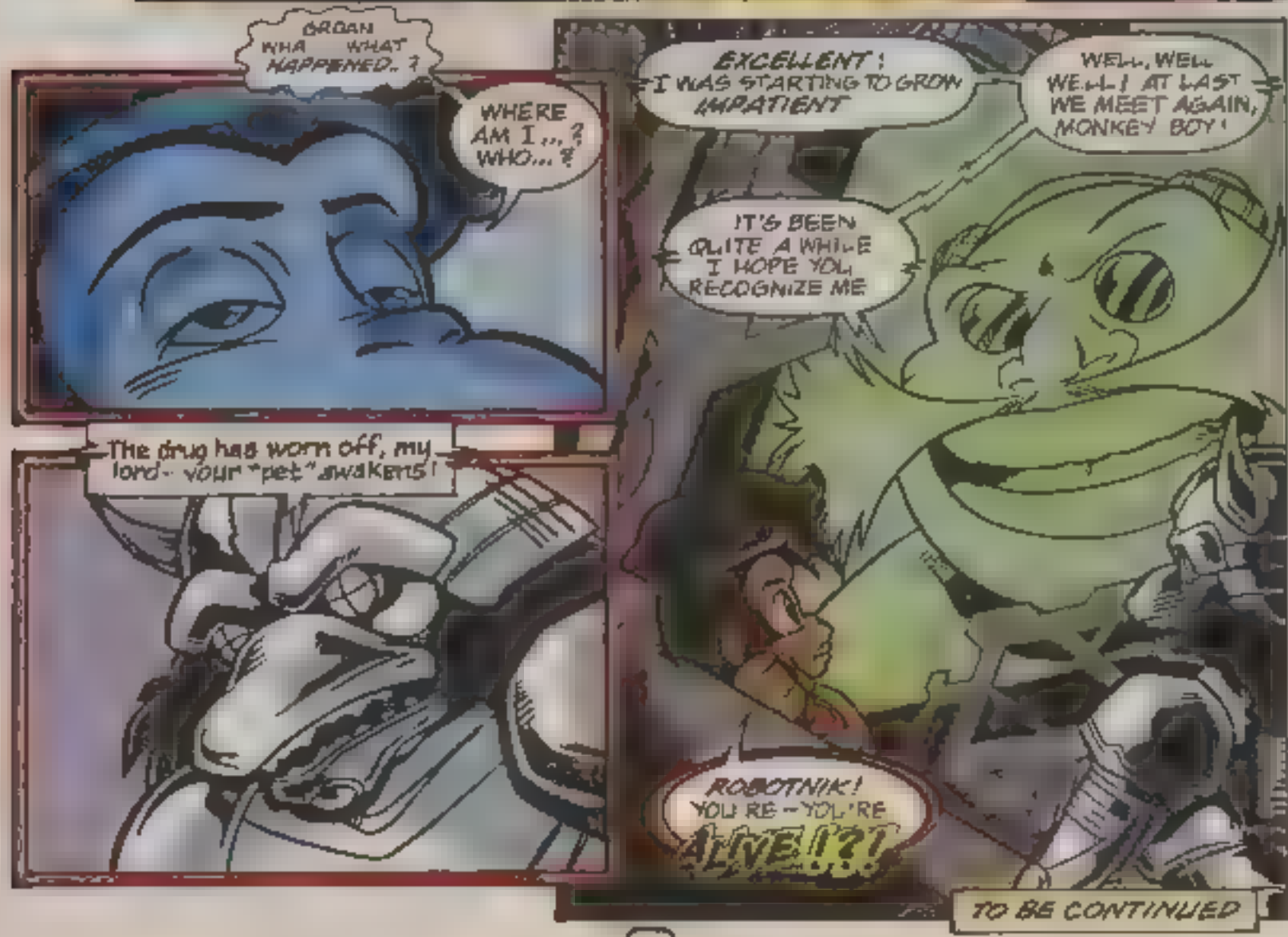

Hee-hee! LOOK AT THOSE OVERLANDERS SCATTER! BRAVO! BRAVO!
WITH A POWERHOUSE LIKE YOU, MY LITTLE MONKEY KHAN, I WON'T NEED AN ARMY!
KING MAX'S MEN WON'T KNOW WHAT HIT THEM WHEN I SET YOU LOOSE ON

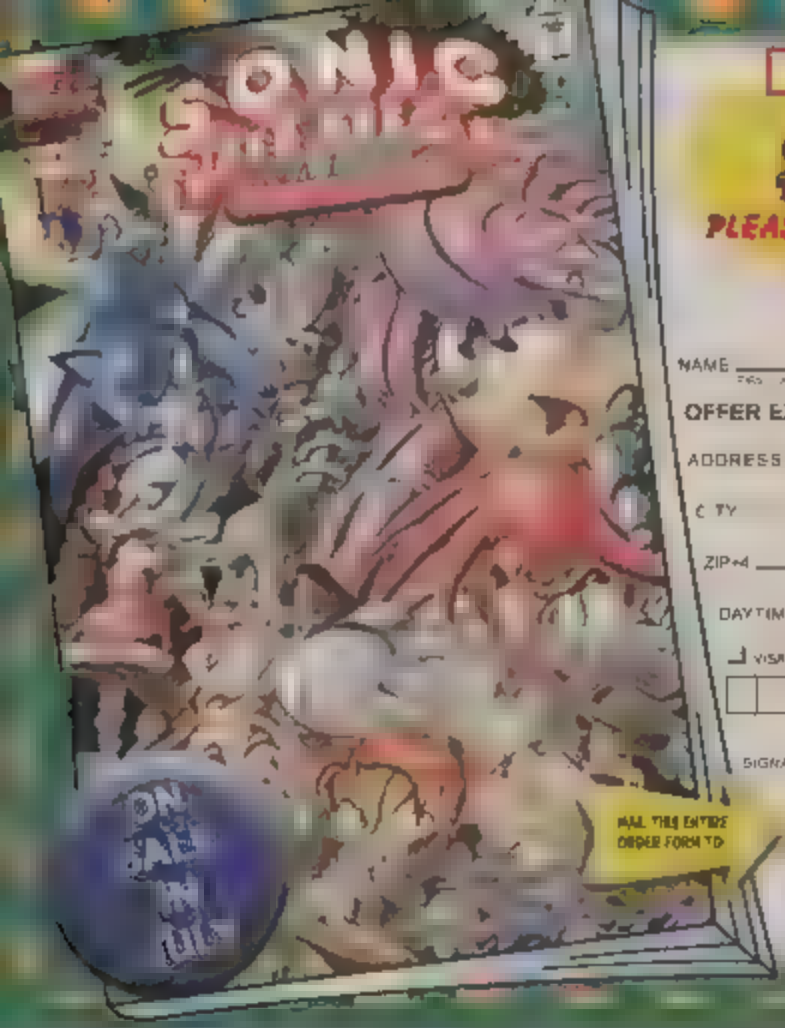

NO! YOU COST ME MY FAMILY... MY FRIENDS...!
I'LL NEVER WORK FOR A SOULLESS FIEND LIKE YOU!!
WHA-A-AT? THIS IS MUTINY! KEEP BACK OR...!


AGHGH!
TALK ABOUT INGRATITUDE-


...THE VILE LITTLE MISANTHROPE WOULD STILL BE PEELING BANANAS IF NOT FOR ME!
DRATS AND DOUBLE-DRATS! THIS WHOLE CYBORG VENTURE IS A TOTAL DISASTER! WHAT GOOD IS THIS AWESOME TECHNOLOGY IF I CAN'T CONTROL IT?
SIGH! I'LL HAVE TO FIGURE A WAY TO PERMANENTLY CONFINE THIS MONKEY CHARACTER. THE LAST THING I NEED IS HIM COMING BACK TO HAUNT ME...


AS THE STORY GOES, ROBOTNIK DID MANAGE TO CONFINE HIS CREATION, THOUGH NOT PERMANENTLY. MANY YEARS LATER, MONKEY KHAN WAS SET FREE! AND HE RETURNED TO HIS ANCESTRAL HOMELAND, KAR LEUNG...
...WHERE HIS RESTLESS SOUL FOUND PEACE AT LEAST UNTIL NOW.


GROAN WHA WHAT HAPPENED..?
WHERE AM I...? WHO...?
The drug has worn off, my lord - your "pet" awakens!
EXCELLENT! I WAS STARTING TO GROW IMPATIENT
WELL, WELL WELL! AT LAST WE MEET AGAIN, MONKEY BOY!
IT'S BEEN QUITE A WHILE I HOPE YOU RECOGNIZE ME
ROBOTNIK! YOU RE - YOU'RE ALIVE!?!
TO BE CONTINUED



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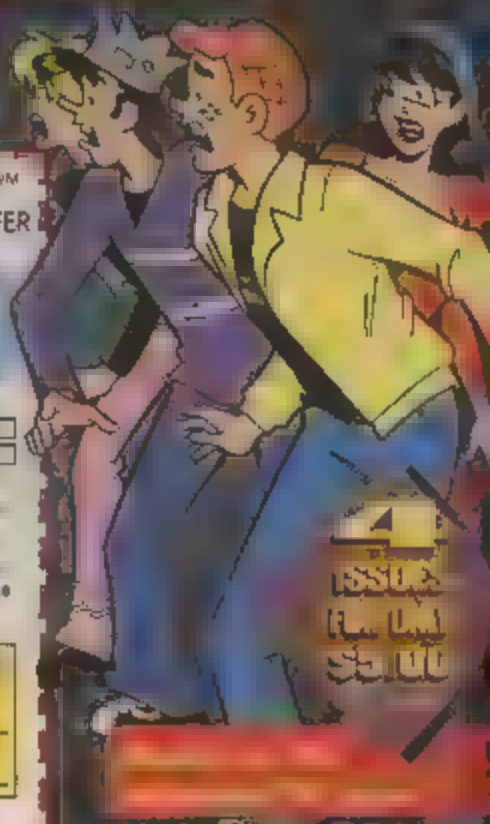

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SONIC-GRAMS

OFF PANEL by Gallagher, Manak & Amash

THIS JUST IN!

J.F. GABRIE Editor

Continuing in the tradition of the old "Adventures of Scott & Paul" strips that used to grace the pages of Sonic-Grams, we introduce Archie employee, Tito (a.k.a. Rosario Pena). As the strip above mentions, he colors all the Archie-related covers. A complete sound effects master with verbal knowledge of almost every spoken line from The Simpsons cartoon, Tito's chaotic mind brings order to the world of cover color separations. You'll see more strips from time to time that will spotlight some of my other co-workers. Say "Hi!" to him next time you write in. Now I have to give you another reason to write in. How about this: Off-Panel has been a regular in Sonic-Grams for about twenty-five or so issues, so tell us what you really think of it. Please... be merciful.

Catch you on the flip side!

Note: Due to the overwhelming amount of e-mail and snail mail, it is impossible for us to reply personally to each and every message. However, your opinions are important to us and each message will be read. Also, due to space limitations, some correspondence may be edited.

Thanks for understanding!

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Footnote References:

Heart of the Hedgehog, Part One

1) See Sonic Adventure adaptations and tie-ins.
2) See SONIC #25.
3) KNUCKLES' CHAOTIX #1.
4) Also KNUCKLES' CHAOTIX #1.

Against A Haunted Past, Part One

1) In SONIC #55.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Next issue: Will our fearless hero save Tails in time before he becomes volcano-crispy and fried? Will the blue blur be able to defeat Metal Sonic to do it? Only one of these can be answered with a yes. Read next month's issue to find out. By Fingeroth, Maxwell and Amash. Also, check out the conclusion to Monkey Khan as he confronts the new Robotnik and his new plans for our simian friend. By Strom and Harvo.

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #87 on sale August 2000!

The official comic adaptation of Sega Dreamcast's "SONIC ADVENTURE" officially ended last month, but your letters just keep coming. Here are some interesting comments on issue #80:

To Sonic and Co.,

Gotta say that SONIC #80 was boss, guys. I think FRY's artwork kicks major-league tail! He's a great addition to the team. In the second story, I'm with Knux. The Brotherhood should've helped Sally, but right now it's a little late for should'ves. I love Amy Rose's new look from the "SONIC ADVENTURE" game and I love the new characters in the book. My sister and I want Tails to get his own title. We also want to see more of the Downunda Freedom Fighters sooner or later (we know you're busy with the Dreamcast tie-in, so we'll wait).

Aura "Amy Rose" Vogler Cage
(age 14)
Mayflower, AR

FRY appreciates your enthusiasm regarding his artwork, Aura!

Dear Sonic,

When are you going to ask Sally to marry you? I was also wondering if you could put your show on the Cartoon Network.

Ethan
Jersey Shore, PA

We know that Sonic is sixteen years old, but don't you think he's a little young to be popping the question to Sally, Ethan? There are no plans (as far as we know) for a syndicated Cartoon Network SONIC show.

Dear Sonic-Grams,

I just finished reading SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #80. Keep up the good work! It's amazing how this comic went from mostly comedy to a serious storyline. I have a few questions: 1) Did Amy's mind mature along with her body? 2) When is Rotor coming back to Knothole? 3) When will Hershey make another appearance in a story? See ya next issue!

Isiah Jerome Jack
(age 19)
Kansas City, MO

We take our comedy very seriously around here, Isiah! On to your questions: 1) Not by any means, and she (as well as her friends) will soon realize that big fact. 2) Rotor should return any day now. What'd you think of his solo story, "Home and Back," last issue? 3) Expect Hershey to show up in SONIC #80. If you can't wait 'til then, check out her solo story in SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #11 if you didn't already!

Dear Sonic-Grams,

Great job on SONIC #80! I loved this issue's "Off-Panel." Now, on to the questions: 1) I'm confused. Isn't the "Hidden City of the Ancients" a green, lush paradise? 2) How old is Amy Rose now? 3) What are those creatures on page six of "Landfall?" 4) What did Knuckles mean when he said, "We could've avoided all of this, you know! If you guys had only helped Princess Sally when she came to us..." 5) Finally, on page three of "Swallowing Trouble", what happened when Froggy drank the water?

Giancarlo Agueci
(age 11)
Ontario, CAN

1) Think of Station Square (or the "Hidden City," as it was called in Mobian legend) as an urban metropolis surrounded by a lush, green paradise, Giancarlo. 2) Amy Rose is now twelve years old. 3) Those mysterious creatures were the Cat People. 4) Princess Sally asked for help from Knuckles' family against Dr. Robotnik in Knuckles #29, and they said no. 5) After drinking the water, Froggy suddenly grew a tail he didn't have before.

Dear Archie Comics,

I'd like to say that I love your comics and that the artwork in it is great! I can't wait to see what happens to Amy Rose. Actually, I think I already know (I bet she gets older). Keep up the good work and say "Hi" to Sonic, Spaz, and FRY for me. Sonic is cool and Spaz and FRY draw great!

Natalie "Luna Silvawolf" Andros
Derby, CT

By now, Natalie, you know that your prediction about Amy was one-hundred percent correct.

Dear Sonic-Grams,

Hi! I think Patrick Harrington's idea to have Tails meet up with Fiona Fox again is great. Maybe you could have it happen in a new TAILS mini-series, because the first two were great! And I think that the Dreamcast tie-in with Big the Cat and Froggy is an awesome idea. Oh, yes-- great job by Spaz, Harvo, and Chris Cowgill on beating and translating the Japanese version of "SONIC ADVENTURE." I'll also take a look at Spaz's work in *Gamefan Magazine*. Keep on juicin'!

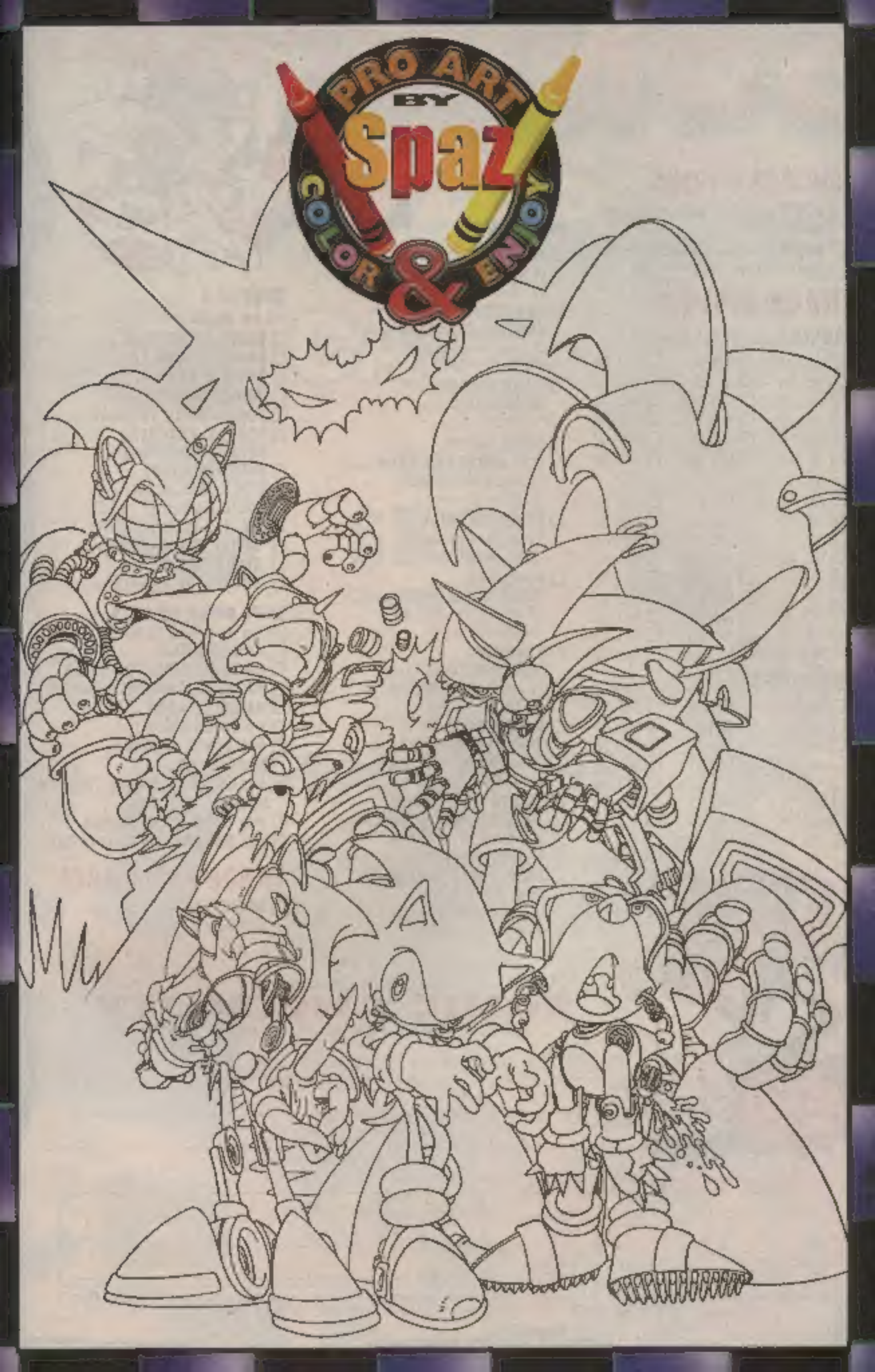
Jamey Wymao-Blackburn
(age 13)
Pleasant Valley, CT

Does anyone else agree with Jamey that Tails and Fiona should hook up in an all-new mini-series? If you agree, send those letters by e-mail if you've got it, and snail mail if you don't!

Thanks for all your letters regarding "SONIC ADVENTURE". See you in thirty when we review SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #81! Until then...

KEEP ON JUICIN'!

Cover illustration by Patrick Spaziante and Harvey Mercadoocasio with colors and seps by Josh D. Ray.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